



Gfemale



Google employees walk out to protest treatment of women

Workers protest against Google's handling of sexual misconduct allegations at the company's Mountain View, Calif., headquarters on Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018.

Associated Press
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U.S. charges China-controlled company in trade secrets theft

By **ERIC TUCKER**

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The United States has charged a government-controlled company in China with stealing trade secrets from an American semiconductor company, the Justice Department said Thursday as it outlined an initiative focused on what officials said was the growing threat of Chinese economic espionage.

The prosecution comes amid heightened trade tensions between China and the U.S. and as the Trump administration raises alarms that Beijing remains intent on stealing technology and inventions to gain an economic upper hand. The two nations have each imposed billions of dollars in tariffs on each other in a reflection of a confrontational relationship with national security as well as economic ramifications. The case, which involves trade secrets worth up to \$8.75 billion and allegedly stolen from Idaho-based Micron Technology Inc., is the latest in a series of prosecutions targeting Chinese corporate espionage. On Tuesday, for instance, federal prosecutors in California charged Chinese intelligence officers and hackers working for them with trying to steal information on commercial jet engines.



Attorney General Jeff Sessions speaks during a news conference to announce a criminal law enforcement action involving China, at the Department of Justice in Washington, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018.

On Tuesday, for instance, federal prosecutors in California charged Chinese intelligence officers and hackers working for them with trying to steal information on commercial jet engines.

Other cases have involved stolen wind turbine technology and software source code.

"China — like any advanced nation — must decide whether it wants to be a trusted partner on the world stage, or whether it wants to be known around the world as a dishonest regime running a corrupt economy founded on fraud, theft and strong-arm tactics," Attorney General Jeff Sessions said at a news conference announcing the criminal case and a new China Initiative.

The charges name two companies, one in China and one in Taiwan, and three Taiwanese defendants. A Justice Department spokesman said the defendants were served summonses in Taiwan and that none is in U.S. custody. The Chinese Embassy did not immediately respond to a request seeking comment Thursday.

One of the charged individuals had been general manager and chairman of a company that Micron acquired in 2013 and then went to work two years later for the Taiwan semiconductor company, United Microelectronics Corporation, or UMC, where prosecutors say he orchestrated

the theft.

That man, identified by prosecutors as Chen Zhengkun, recruited both of his co-defendants to join him at UMC. One, according to prosecutors, downloaded more than 900 confidential and proprietary Micron files before he left and stored them in personal cloud storage and on external hard drives so that he could access them at his new job with UMC.

The company partnered with a Chinese-controlled business, Fujian Jinhua Integrated Circuit Co., to mass-produce technology memory storage products used in computer electronics.

That technology, known as dynamic random-access memory, is something that the Chinese government had identified as an important priority because its own companies could not develop such advanced capabilities and had to rely on companies outside of China, the Justice Department said.

The indictment was announced one day after the Trump administration imposed restrictions on technology exports to the Chinese company that was charged, citing national security concerns. Beijing has spent heavily to build

up Jinhua and other chip-makers as part of efforts to transform China into a global leader in robotics, artificial intelligence and other technology industries. The United States also Thursday sued to block the transfer of trade secrets and to prevent the companies from exporting to the U.S. any products that they manufacturing by exploiting stolen information.

In addition, the Justice Department announced an initiative to target Chinese economic espionage by identifying priority cases and ensuring there are enough resources available.

The administration has characterized China, along with Russia, as a strategic competitor of the United States. The U.S. has taken an increasingly confrontational stance toward what it characterizes as China's "predatory" economic policies. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo set the tone in a June speech where he accused China of an "unprecedented level of larceny" of intellectual property.

Tensions over trade in particular have exacerbated relations between the two world powers. President Donald Trump has imposed tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese products in an effort to narrow the U.S. trade deficit with China. China has retaliated with tariff increases on \$110 billion of American products.

The tensions have extended into security issues. China has criticized U.S. arms sales to Taiwan, which Beijing considers a renegade province, and the U.S. has renewed its criticism of China's island-building in the disputed South China Sea. In recent weeks, Trump has accused China of meddling in U.S. elections but hasn't presented substantive evidence of such interference.

In a tweet Thursday, Trump said he had spoken with Chinese President Xi Jinping and that they had talked about many topics, but mostly trade. □

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Google employees leave work to protest treatment of women

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Carrying signs that included a mocking use of the company's original "Don't be evil" motto, thousands of Google employees around the world briefly walked off the job Thursday to protest what they said was the tech giant's mishandling of sexual misconduct allegations against executives.

From Tokyo, Singapore and London to New York, Seattle and San Francisco, highly paid engineers and other workers staged walkouts of about an hour, reflecting rising #MeToo-era frustration among women over frat-house behavior and other misconduct in heavily male Silicon Valley. In Dublin, organizers used megaphones to address the outdoor crowd of men and women, while in other places, workers gathered in packed conference rooms or lobbies. In New York, there appeared to be as many men as women out in the streets, while in Cambridge, Massachusetts, men outnumbered women by perhaps 6 to 1. "Time is up on sexual harassment!" organizer Vicki Tardif Holland shouted, her voice hoarse, at a gathering of about 300 people in Cambridge. "Time is up on systemic racism. Time is up on abuses of power. Enough is enough!"

About 1,000 Google workers in San Francisco swarmed into a plaza in front of the city's historic Ferry Building, chanting, "Women's rights are workers' rights!" Thousands turned out at Google's Mountain View, California, headquarters.

The demonstrations reflected a sense among some of the 94,000 employees at Google and its parent Alphabet Inc. that the company isn't living up to its professed ideals, as expressed in its "Don't be evil" slogan and its newer injunction in its corporate code of conduct: "Do the right thing."

"We have the eyes of

many companies looking at us," Google employee Tanuja Gupta said in New York. "We've always been a vanguard company, so if we don't lead the way, nobody else will."

The protests unfolded a week after The New York Times detailed allegations of sexual misconduct about the creator of Google's Android software, Andy Rubin.

The newspaper said Rubin received a \$90 million severance package in 2014 after Google concluded the accusations were credible. Rubin has denied the allegations.

The same story also disclosed allegations of sexual misconduct against other executives, including Richard DeVaul, a director at the Google-affiliated lab that created self-driving cars and internet-beaming balloons.

DeVaul had remained at the "X" lab after the accusations surfaced a few years ago, but resigned on Tuesday without severance, Google said.

In an unsigned statement, the Google protesters called for an end to forced arbitration in harassment and discrimination cases, a practice that requires employees to give up their right to sue and often includes confidentiality agreements.

Besides being angry about what they contend has been lenient handling of executives who mistreat women, the protest organizers demanded more aggressive steps for gender pay equity and more inclusive hiring practices to reduce the high concentration of white and Asian men in the industry's best-paying programming jobs. Women account for 31 percent of Google's employees worldwide, and it's lower for leadership roles. The numbers are similar elsewhere in Silicon Valley. "I have seen friends get hurt and have their careers destroyed by this, not just at Google but everywhere," protester J.J. Wanda, a

male software engineer, said in Mountain View. "We need to show that time's up."

Beyond Google, Facebook has faced criticism over pay inequity and discrimination. The appearance of a Facebook executive behind Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh during his confirmation hearings also caused rifts inside the company.

As Thursday dawned, organizers had predicted about 1,500 employees would participate in the walkouts, mostly women. But the numbers appeared to exceed that, based on media accounts and images posted on the protest's Twitter account.

The protests at Google are the latest sign that frustrations among women are reaching a boiling point, said Stephanie Creary, a professor who specializes in workplace and diversity issues at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.

"People simply aren't will-



Tanuja Gupta, programming director at Google, addresses hundreds of Google employees during a protest rally on Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

ing to put up with it anymore," Creary said. "The workers at Google seem to be saying, 'How is it that we are still having to have this conversation?'"

Google's CEO assured employees earlier this week that the company would support them in their protest. He also apologized for

Google's "past actions."

"I understand the anger and disappointment that many of you feel," Pichai said in an email. "I feel it as well, and I am fully committed to making progress on an issue that has persisted for far too long in our society ... and, yes, here at Google, too." □



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AP Explains: How the Native American vote evolved

By **RUSSELL CONTRERAS**

Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)

— Native Americans are running for high-profile seats this year in New Mexico, Kansas, Minnesota and Idaho in what could bring historic gains for a population once excluded from electoral politics.

Indian voters also could swing important races in Montana, Arizona and North Dakota.

The midterm election Tuesday comes 70 years after Isleta Pueblo member Miguel Trujillo's landmark court challenge against a New Mexico law that had prevented Native Americans from voting.

And 50 years ago, Native American voters were credited with helping Robert F. Kennedy win a historic victory in South Dakota's Democratic presidential primary. Here's a look at how the Native American vote has become a key bloc in the U.S. after decades of exclusion:

THE LONG FIGHT

Written into the original U.S. Constitution was a clause that said Indians who didn't pay taxes could not be counted in the voting population of states. That prevented Native Americans living in tribal communities — considered sovereign nations — from



In this Thursday, Oct. 25, 2018, photo, Brandon Nez displays his flag near his jewelry stand in Monument Valley, Utah, where tourists stand the highway to recreate a famous running scene from the movie "Forest Gump."

becoming U.S. citizens and voting members of the new democracy. Like African Americans, Native Americans were excluded from voting and public accommodations long after the Civil War and the Wounded Knee Massacre of 1890 in South Dakota.

The Indian Naturalization Act of 1890 finally granted citizenship to Native Americans by an application process, but many weren't allowed to vote until President Calvin Coolidge signed the Indian Citizenship Act in 1924.

Still, a number of states such as New Mexico and

Arizona barred many Native Americans from voting. That changed after World War II veteran Marine Sgt. Miguel Trujillo Sr. sued New Mexico when a county clerk refused to allow him to register to vote because he lived on tribal land.

Trujillo won his case, clearing the way for Native Americans in New Mexico and elsewhere to vote.

REMAINING BARRIERS

In 1975 under President Gerald Ford, the Voting Rights Act was amended with changes that mentioned Alaska, Arizona and parts of South Dakota as

places that discriminated against Native Americans through ballot language. The federal law required that polling locations offer information in Spanish and various Native languages. As late as the 1990s, some New Mexico counties were subject to U.S. Justice Department consent decrees for violating the Voting Rights Act by not providing information in Native languages.

Meanwhile, voters began electing Native Americans to seats in state legislatures. In 1992, Democrat Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado became the

first Native American elected to the U.S. Senate. He later switched to the Republican Party.

THE 2018 ELECTION

A new Republican-backed ID law in North Dakota upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court prevents Native Americans without a residential address from voting. Opponents say the law is intended to disenfranchise Native American voters who historically have used post office boxes as addresses.

Supporters of the law say it's meant to combat voter fraud.

Sen. Heidi Heitkamp, a Democrat, won a close race in 2012 in the state with the help of Native American voters. She is now facing a strong challenge from Republican Rep. Kevin Cramer.

Elsewhere, Democrats Debra Haaland in New Mexico and Sharice Davids in Kansas are vying to become the first Native American women elected to the U.S. House.

Voters in Minnesota will elect the state's first Native American lieutenant governor. Both candidates — Democrat state Rep. Peggy Flanagan and Republican Donna Bergstrom — are members of tribal nations that are bands of Ojibwe. □

If House leaders change, black Dems want 1 of 2 top posts

By **ALAN FRAM**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Congressional Black Caucus served notice Thursday that the influential group wants a black lawmaker to hold at least one of the House's two top Democratic jobs next year if Nancy Pelosi or other party leaders don't retain their posts in the new Congress.

Caucus Chairman Rep. Cedric Richmond, D-La., wrote colleagues that despite the party's "celebration of diversity," a black lawmaker has never held one of the two top jobs. "It's time we

walk our talk," he added in letter obtained by The Associated Press.

The effort is an example of behind-the-scenes jockeying already under way to fill the party's top jobs in the Congress that convenes in January. Many in both parties believe Democrats will likely gain the 23 seats they will need to win House control in Tuesday's elections. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., wants to reclaim the job of speaker she held when Democrats last controlled the chamber from 2007 through 2010. She has strong sup-

port among liberal and female Democratic lawmakers and is believed to have a solid shot at winning the job, for which she will need at least 218 votes, a House majority.

Yet it is unclear if she will be able to do so. Many Democrats say it is time for fresh faces to replace Pelosi and other party leaders, who are all in their late 70s, and say GOP efforts to demonize her as an out-of-touch liberal have made her a liability for the party.

It is widely believed that if Republicans retain their hold on the House, frus-

trated Democrats would replace Pelosi, No. 2 leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland and No. 3 leader Jim Clyburn of South Carolina.

The caucus' letter does not name who it wants to see move into the two top jobs. Clyburn is black and has expressed an interest in moving up, according to many Democrats speaking on condition of anonymity to describe private discussions. Richmond and Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., are also mentioned as potential candidates for top jobs. More than 40 of the current 193 House Demo-

crats are members of the caucus. Both figures are likely to grow in next year's Congress. Some Democratic challengers who are likely to win their races have publicly said they would not vote for Pelosi to become speaker. That, along with disgruntled incumbents, might be enough to topple her if the Democratic victory margin is slender. Spokesmen for Pelosi and Jeffries declined to comment on the letter. Aides to Clyburn and the black caucus did not immediately return phone calls and emails seeking comment. □

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Anchorage shelter seeks to exclude transgender people

By **RACHEL D'ORO****Associated Press****ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP)**

— A faith-based women's homeless shelter in Anchorage is suing to block the city from requiring it to accept transgender women, which it said would violate its religious beliefs.

Lawyers for Alliance Defending Freedom filed a motion in federal court Thursday seeking an injunction to stop the city from applying its gender identity law to the Hope Center shelter in Anchorage. The conservative Christian law firm based in Scottsdale, Arizona, says homeless shelters are exempt from the local law, yet the city has used the law to "investigate, harass, and pressure" the downtown shelter.

"The injunction would mean that Anchorage can't apply the ordinance to the Hope Center in order to force the Hope Center to allow men to come in the shelter and sleep and undress alongside these vulnerable homeless women," Denise Harle, an attorney with the alliance, said Thursday.

The shelter operators filed a federal lawsuit against the city and its Equal Rights Commission in August, months after a transgender woman complained to the commission that she was denied entry at the shelter. Because the matter is not resolved, Thursday's filing is premature, and so is the request for injunctive relief, said Deputy Municipal Attorney Deitra Ennis, who represents the city and its Equal Rights Commission in the matter. The commission began an investigation after the transgender woman complained she

was denied housing at the shelter. The commission's investigation has not been concluded "due in large part to the noncooperation of the Hope Center," Ennis said in a statement provided to The Associated Press. She said the commission had reached no decision or enforcement action before Thursday's court motion. "There is strong federal policy not to intervene in local agency proceedings prior to any enforcement action or state court review of local code interpretation," she wrote. The plaintiffs said the individual identified only as "Jessie Doe" showed up inebriated after hours in January and was not turned away because of gender. The shelter officials even paid for a taxicab ride to a local hospital for the individual, who had a forehead wound from fighting at another shelter, to do "the loving thing" rather than involving police, Harle said. Center officials did not call for an ambulance because the wound did not appear to be an emergency, she said. The same individual showed up the following day and again was denied entry, according to Thursday's motion.

Because the city continues to pursue the transgender issue, plaintiffs want to the federal court to weigh in and make clear once and for all that nothing the shelter is doing is violating the law, Harle said.

Alliance Defending Freedom also represented a Colorado baker who refused to make a wedding cake for a same-sex couple. In a limited decision, the U.S. Supreme Court

sided with the baker, but it did not rule on the larger issue of whether businesses can invoke religious objections to refuse service to gays and lesbians.

The Southern Poverty Law Center has identified the alliance as an LGBT hate group, one that seeks to push transgender people "back into the shadows." □



Denise Harle, an attorney with the conservative Christian law firm Alliance Defending Freedom, poses for a photo outside the Hope Center women's shelter in downtown, Anchorage, Alaska, on Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018.

Associated Press

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APNewsBreak: Racial bias probed at Coast Guard Academy

By **MICHAEL MELIA**

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) —

The Department of Homeland Security's inspector general is investigating allegations of racial discrimination at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and inadequate follow-up by the school's leadership, the agency said Thursday.

The investigation will bring a new layer of scrutiny to the service academy that is already under pressure from Congress to address concerns about racial insensitivity, disparities in discipline and the administration's handling of complaints.

The probe began within the last few months and could take up to a year, Arlen Morales, a spokeswoman for the Office of Inspector General, told The Associated Press. It will look into how the academy responds to allegations of race or ethnicity-based discrimination. Ultimately, the academy will be required to provide a corrective action plan, with the inspector general's office updating Congress on any shortcomings.

U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney said the academy has made strides with mentoring programs and other initiatives to recruit and retain minorities but it is also clear work remains to be done.

"It's an issue that's got to once and for all get fixed," said Courtney, a Democrat whose district in eastern Connecticut includes the academy's New London campus. "What I think is good about the IG's office



In this July 2, 2018 file photo, members of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy Class of 2022 pose for their class photo on day one of Swab Summer at the academy in New London, Conn.

is they give perspective in terms of solutions. That would be welcome."

A spokesman for the academy said it was preparing a statement.

One of the nation's smallest service academies, the Coast Guard Academy is overseen by Homeland Security, unlike others such as the U.S. Military Academy and the Naval Academy that are run by the Defense Department. It enrolls over 1,000 cadets, who attend the school tuition-free and graduate as officers with a bachelor of science degree and a requirement to spend five years in the service.

Like many other predominantly white institutions, it has struggled with diver-

sity. This spring, it graduated its most diverse class ever, including 18 African-Americans in a class of 209 (8.6 percent), though last year it had only four black graduates in a class of 195 (2 percent).

In recent years, black cadets in particular have been raising concerns about the racial climate, including a perception that minorities are punished swiftly for slight infractions while others face little consequence for harassment. In one incident, when a white cadet played the song "If the South Woulda Won" in a black cadet's room, the local NAACP said some were frustrated the white cadet was let off with an order to undergo sensitivity training.

In October, U.S. Rep. Bennie Thompson, a Mississippi Democrat and ranking member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, proposed legislation aimed at fostering a more inclusive environment at the academy. It calls for boosting geographic and racial diversity of cadets in part by requiring the academy to select up to half of each incoming class from a pool of candidates nominated by members of Congress.

In June, Thompson, Courtney and U.S. Rep. Elijah Cummings of Maryland asked the Coast Guard commandant for detailed information on harassment allegations and climate issues at the academy, re-

questing documents such as investigative reports within a month. Connecticut's two U.S. senators sent a similar letter. Courtney said the academy has provided hundreds of pages but has been asked to remove redactions.

The academy launched several initiatives to ensure all cadets feel welcome on campus. It invited a review by the University of Southern California's Center for Urban Education, which issued a report detailing disparities affecting black cadets in areas, including frequency of disciplinary action and graduation rates. The school's superintendent ordered a working group to look into factors behind the gaps. □

Associated Press

Tennessee conducts 1st electric chair execution since 2007

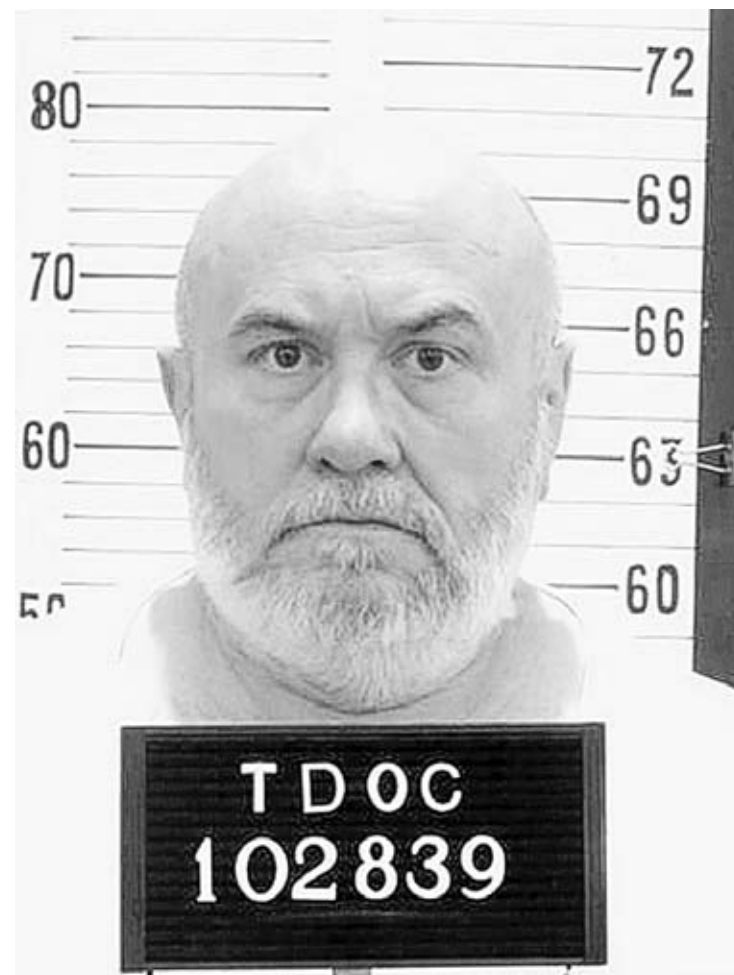
By **KIMBERLEE KRUESI**

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee used its electric chair for the first time since 2007, executing an inmate Thursday evening for the killings of two other men who had been shot and had their throats slit during a drug deal decades ago. Authorities said 63-year-old inmate Edmund Zagorski was pronounced dead at 7:26 p.m. Thursday at a Nashville maximum-security prison. Asked if he had any last words, he said, "Let's rock" shortly before the execution was carried out. Reporters witnessing the scene said at a news briefing afterward that he alternated between grimacing and smiling as a sponge was put on his head, then a shroud over his head. They said his fist clenched when the voltage flowed and he did not move once the electricity stopped flowing. In opting for the electric chair over a lethal injection as Tennessee allowed him, Zagorski had argued it would be a quicker and less painful way to die. He became only the second person to die in the electric chair in Tennessee since 1960. Nationwide, only 14 other people have been put to death in the electric chair since 2000, including a Virginia inmate in 2013. The execution was carried

out shortly after the U.S. Supreme Court on Thursday evening denied the inmate's request for a stay. Attorneys argued that it was unconstitutional to force him to choose between the electric chair and lethal injection. The state came close to administering a chemical injection to the 63-year-old inmate three weeks ago, a plan halted by Tennessee's governor when Zagorski exercised his right to request the electric chair. The Supreme Court, in a statement Thursday evening, said Justice Sonia Sotomayor was the dissenting voice, noting Zagorski's decision to opt for the electric chair. "He did so not because he thought that it was a humane way to die, but because he thought that the three-drug cocktail that Tennessee had planned to use was even worse," Sotomayor said in the statement. "Given what most people think of the electric chair, it's hard to imagine a more striking testament — from a person with more at stake — to the legitimate fears raised by the lethal-injection drugs that Tennessee uses." Zagorski was convicted of the April 1983 slayings of two men during a drug deal. Prosecutors said Zagorski shot John Dotson

and Jimmy Porter and then slit their throats after robbing the two men after they came to him to buy marijuana. In Tennessee, condemned inmates whose crimes occurred before 1999 can choose the electric chair — one of six states that allow such a choice. The U.S. Supreme Court has never ruled on whether use of the electric chair violates the 8th Amendment ban on cruel and unusual punishment, but it came close about 20 years ago after a series of botched electrocutions in Florida. During two executions in the 1990s smoke and flames shot from the condemned inmates' heads. In 1999, blood spilled from under an inmate's mask. Shortly afterward, the Supreme Court agreed to hear a challenge to the electric chair. But the case was dropped when Florida made lethal injection its primary execution method. Republican Gov. Bill Haslam declined to intervene in Zagorski's case despite receiving pleas from former jurors who convicted the inmate, correctional officers and Zagorski's priest. A request for commutation of Zagorski's sentence to life in prison argued that Zagorski had been an "exemplary" inmate who never had a disciplinary infraction.



This undated file photo released by the Tennessee Department of Corrections shows death row inmate Edmund Zagorski in Tennessee.

Associated Press

At the time of Zagorski's conviction, Tennessee juries were not given the option of considering life without parole. Every state now requires juries to weigh that option in death penalty cases. Tennessee's electric chair was inspected on Oct. 10 and found to meet the criteria for an execution, state documents show.

The device was originally rebuilt in the late 1980s by a self-taught execution expert who worried the device would malfunction on Thursday. It's only been used to execute one person before: Daryl Holton, in 2007. Before Holton, the last person to die in Tennessee's electric chair was William Tines in 1960. □

Colorado jury's pot verdict may discourage similar cases

By **PAUL ELIAS**

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A Colorado jury likely threw cold water on future legal challenges against cannabis companies by homeowners who consider filing racketeering lawsuits alleging proximity to pot operations hurts their property values, analysts and industry lawyers said Thursday. A federal jury in Denver on Wednesday rejected claims involving the odor from a pot farm made in a case that was closely watched by the marijuana

industry. It was the first such lawsuit to reach a jury. Three others are pending in California, Massachusetts and Oregon. "The big takeaway is that the verdict is likely to curb the enthusiasm for bringing these lawsuits in the future," Vanderbilt University law professor Rob Mikos said. He said it's easy to show marijuana companies are violating federal laws against pot, but the Colorado verdict shows the difficulty in proving actual harm. "There was a thought that

this would be easy money," Mikos said about such claims. Congress created the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act — better known as RICO — to target the Mafia in the 1970s. It allowed prosecutors to argue that leaders of a criminal enterprise should pay a price along with lower-level defendants. The law also allows private parties to file lawsuits claiming their business or property has been damaged by a criminal enterprise. Scott Schlager, a lawyer



In this Feb. 19, 2015 file photo Hope, left, and Mike Reilly of Pueblo, Colo., attend a news conference in reaction to the announcement that a federal lawsuit is being filed on behalf of the couple by a Washington D.C.-based group to shut down the state's \$800-million-a-year marijuana industry, in Denver.

Associated Press

who filed a similar lawsuit against a Cambridge, Massachusetts, dispensary

agreed with Mikos, saying racketeering lawsuits are expensive to litigate. □

Bank of England warns of economic shock if Brexit talks fail

By PAN PYLAS
Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The Bank of England warned Thursday that Britain could suffer an economic shock if it crashes out of the European Union without a deal, saying it could cause gridlock at ports and an inflation-rearing fall in the pound that could require higher interest rates.

After the bank decided to keep its main rate at 0.75 percent, Governor Mark Carney said the British economy's supply capacity — that is, what the country is able to produce — could "fall sharply" in case of a disorderly Brexit.

"An abrupt and disorderly withdrawal could result in delays at borders, disruptions to supply chains, and more rapid and costly shifts in patterns of production, severely impairing the productive capacity of some U.K. businesses," he said.

Carney said policymakers would have to try to work out which of the changes were short-term — caused by logistical challenges related to the end of free



Bank of England Governor Mark Carney attends the Bank of England's inflation report press conference in the City of London, Thursday Nov. 1, 2018.

movement of goods and services, for example — and which would affect the economy in the longer term.

The bank could be forced to raise interest rates, depending on how the pound reacts, he said. After Britain voted to leave the EU in June 2016, the currency fell

15 percent against major currencies, stoking inflation by making imports more expensive.

The bank, which is tasked with keeping inflation stable, is predicting another fall in the pound if Britain leaves the EU without a deal and no transition to smoothen out the exit.

"There are scenarios where policy would have to be tightened," Carney told a news conference, while adding that a no-deal Brexit is "not the most likely scenario."

Many economists doubt the central bank's initial response to a disorderly Brexit would be to increase rates.

Associated Press

After the 2016 referendum, when the pound had fallen, the bank cut rates.

The Bank of England, which has raised its key rate twice over the past year, is more likely to slash its benchmark rate to zero, economists say. And it could add stimulus by buying corporate bonds.

Carney's comments come as Prime Minister Theresa May struggles to keep her divided Conservative Party in check in the Brexit discussions.

The talks are hung up in particular on the question of how to avoid reinstating a hard border between EU member Ireland and Northern Ireland, which is part of the United Kingdom.

A summit of EU leaders in October was supposed to be the moment by which to reach a Brexit deal. Now officials are talking about a summit in December as the last chance for a deal. By then, many Britain-based firms may have already activated contingency plans that could include transferring business to the continent and cutting jobs. □

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Venice floodwaters ease; Italian storms kill 2 more people



Tourists pose for a selfie in flooded St. Mark's Square in Venice, Italy, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018 as rainstorms and strong winds have been battering the country.

By LUCA BRUNO

Associated Press

VENICE, Italy (AP) — Wearing colorful disposable boots, tourists enjoyed outdoor cafes Thursday in St. Mark's Square in Venice as waters receded from an exceptional high tide.

With their feet in water, they sat at tables in the lagoon city's showcase square and ate ice cream, three days after the famed Italian city saw its highest level of flooding since 2008. Water levels in Venice reached 156 centimeters

(more than 5 feet) on Monday.

While dramatic, that was more than a foot lower than the 194 centimeters (76 inches) of water that devastated Venice in 1966. But elsewhere in Italy, the death toll rose to at least 14 from the heavy rains and strong winds pummeling much of the country this week, and many regions warned that Thursday's storms could do more damage.

Two people were killed when a falling chestnut tree crushed their car in the mountainous northwest region of Val d'Aosta.

The Italian news agency ANSA also reported Thursday that a man died of injuries suffered earlier this week when his car crashed into fallen trees in the Alpine region of South Tyrol. □

UN votes overwhelmingly to condemn US embargo of Cuba

By EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — In a slap to the United States, the U.N. General Assembly overwhelmingly approved a resolution Thursday condemning the American economic embargo of Cuba and rejected proposed U.S. amendments strongly criticizing the lack of human rights in the island country.

Resolutions adopted by the 193-member world body are unenforceable, but they reflect world opinion and the vote has given Cuba an annual stage for the last 27 years to demonstrate the isolation of the U.S. on the embargo.

It was imposed in 1960 following the revolution led by Fidel Castro and the nationalization of properties belonging to U.S. citizens and corporations, and two years later it was strengthened.

The General Assembly's vote on the Cuban-sponsored resolution on the "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba" was 189-2 with no abstentions. The U.S. and Israel voted "no" and Moldova and Ukraine did not vote. In earlier separate votes on the proposed U.S. amendments, Ukraine and Israel were the only countries to join the U.S. in voting "yes" on all eight measures while the Marshall Islands backed one amendment. Some 114 countries voted against the amendments and about 65 abstained.

The proposed amendments expressed serious concern at the lack of freedom of expression and access to information in Cuba and the prohibition on workers' right to strike. They called on Cuba to fully grant its citizens "internationally recognized civil, political and economic rights and freedoms," to establish an independent civil society and to release people detained for exercising their human rights.

Cuba's Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez called the



The United Nations General Assembly meets, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018 at U.N. headquarters.

Associated Press

U.S. embargo "a flagrant, massive and systematic violation of the human rights of Cuban men and women" and denounced what he called the politicized U.S. amendments.

"The government of the United States doesn't have the least moral authority to criticize Cuba or anyone when it comes to human rights," he said.

Rodriguez accused the U.S. government of committing "crimes against humanity," pointing to its dropping of the atom bomb in Japan in World War II, waging wars that "caused the death of millions, many of them innocent," and carrying out what he claimed were "extrajudicial executions, kidnapping and torture." He also accused the U.S. of violating the human rights of its citizens, singling out Afro-Americans, Hispanics, minorities, refugees and migrants.

U.S. Ambassador Nikki Haley stressed before the votes that "our reason for the embargo is and has always been Cuba's denial of freedom and the denial of the most basic human rights for the Cuban people."

She urged the General Assembly to use its "megaphone" and "send a moral message to the Cuban dictatorship" that could help improve the lives of the Cuban people.

But the United States failed to get support even from Western nations.

The European Union said the U.S. amendments did not belong in a resolution dealing with a trade embargo, and its members supported the resolution calling for the United States "to repeal or invalidate" the embargo. Canada

also spoke out against the amendments.

Before the vote Haley said: "We have no problem standing alone on behalf of the things that we believe in and will proudly do so again today if necessary."

Following the U.S. defeat, however, Haley told the General Assembly: "There

are no winners here today, there are only losers."

"They have been abandoned by the United Nations and most of the world's governments, but the Cuban people are not alone today," Haley said. "The American people will stand with them until they are restored the rights that God has given us all, rights that no government can legitimately deny its people." The decision by the administration of U.S. President Donald Trump to call for a vote on each of the eight amendments represents an escalation of its action last year and reflects worsening U.S.-Cuban relations. Cuban President Raul Castro and then-President Barack Obama officially restored relations in July 2016. But Ambassador Haley and others have sharply criticized Cuba's human rights record. In 2017, the U.S. returned to voting against the resolution condemning the American economic embargo after the Obama administration abstained in 2016, a first for the United States in 25 years. □

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S. Korea's Moon: N. Korean leader Kim to visit Seoul 'soon'

By **HYUNG-JIN KIM**

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)

— South Korean President Moon Jae-in said Thursday that North Korean leader Kim Jong Un will "soon" visit Seoul as part of a series of high-profile diplomatic efforts aimed at ridding North Korea of its nuclear weapons.

Moon said in a speech to parliament that a second North Korea-U.S. summit is also "near at hand" and that Chinese President Xi Jinping is expected to visit North Korea soon. Moon also said he expects Kim to visit Russia soon and that Kim may meet with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

Moon has previously said that Kim told him he would visit Seoul within this year when the leaders met in Pyongyang, North Korea's capital, in September.

"Now, based on firm trust among one another, South and North Korea and the United States will achieve complete denuclearization and lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula," Moon said. "This is an opportunity that has come like a miracle. It's something that we should never miss."

The prospects for a second summit between Kim and U.S. President Donald Trump improved after Sec-



South Korean President Moon Jae-in delivers his speech on the government's 2019 budget proposal during a plenary session at the National Assembly in Seoul, South Korea, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018.

retary of State Mike Pompeo made his fourth visit to North Korea last month. But no breakthrough has followed. U.S. officials have recently said a second Trump-Kim summit will likely happen early next year. Some experts have raised doubts over whether Kim's Seoul trip will occur by December.

Moon, a liberal who took office last year, favors a negotiated resolution to the decades-long international standoff over North Korea's nuclear ambitions. He has

facilitated a series of high-level U.S.-North Korea exchanges, including their first summit in Singapore in June.

But Moon has faced growing outside skepticism over whether his engagement policy will eventually settle the nuclear standoff. Many conservatives in South Korea and the United States say North Korea has no intention of fully giving up its nuclear program and only wants to buy time to perfect its weapons.

Since entering nuclear talks

earlier this year, North Korea has halted nuclear and missile tests and dismantled its nuclear testing site. The United States suspended some annual military drills with South Korea, but is reluctant to provide North Korea with big political or economic benefits unless it takes more serious disarmament steps.

The two Korea have also been taking steps to reduce conventional military threats along their border as part of deals struck during an inter-Korean sum-

mit in September. Seoul officials said the rivals on Thursday put covers on their naval and coastal artillery guns and closed gun ports along their disputed western sea boundary, the scene of several bloody maritime skirmishes between the countries in recent years.

South Korea's military said the two Koreas halted all hostile acts against each other along the land, sea and aerial boundaries as of Thursday.

The Koreas have already removed weapons from a shared border village and have begun clearing mines at another border area where they plan their first searches for Korean War dead.

The two Koreas have remained split along the world's most heavily fortified border since the three-year Korean War ended in 1953 with an armistice, not a peace treaty.

If Kim, a third-generation hereditary ruler, visits Seoul, he would be the first North Korean leader to do so since the war's end. Last year saw increased fears of a new war on the peninsula as he exchanged threats of destruction and crude insults with Trump over North Korea's push to develop nuclear missiles capable of striking the U.S. mainland. □

Maldives ex-president returns from exile

By **MOHMED SHARUHAAN**

Associated Press

MALE, Maldives (AP)

— The first democratically elected president of the Maldives returned home Thursday after more than two years in exile to escape a long prison term.

The plane carrying Mohamed Nasheed from Sri Lanka landed in Maldives' capital, Male, where he was welcomed by his party members and supporters. He traveled to the capital island from the airport, which is built on a separate island, in a boat parade.

Later he addressed his supporters and held a news conference in which he criticized outgoing Presi-



Maldives' former president Mohamed Nasheed, center is received by President-elect Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, right, at the airport in Male, Maldives, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018.

Associated Press

dent Yameen Abdul Gayoom's administration as "authoritarian" which has put the country under a

heavy debt burden.

Yameen's government had signed a number of infrastructure projects funded

by China, which Nasheed had criticized before as akin to a land grab.

Nasheed also said there was enough evidence of alleged corruption and misrule against Yameen to prosecute him.

Nasheed was sentenced to 13 years in jail in 2015 after being convicted of terrorism for ordering the arrest of a top judge in 2012 while he was president. His trial was criticized internationally for lack of due process, along with those of many other political opponents jailed by Yameen's administration.

He was offered asylum in Britain when he traveled there for medical treat-

ment on leave from prison. Nasheed's return follows Yameen's defeat in the Sept. 23 presidential election by Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, the candidate of Nasheed's Maldivian Democratic Party.

The Supreme Court earlier this week suspended Nasheed's prison sentence until it reviews his conviction at the request of the country's prosecutor general, a move to prevent his arrest on arrival.

Two other people — an opposition party leader and a former vice president who was Yameen's running mate in the 2103 presidential election — earlier returned from exile. □

56,800 dead and missing: The hidden toll of migration

By LORI HINNANT
BRAM JANSSEN
Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — As migration rises worldwide, so has its toll: The tens of thousands of people who die or simply disappear during their journeys. Barely counted in life, these migrants rarely register in death — almost as if they never lived at all.

A growing number of migrants have drowned, died in deserts or fallen prey to traffickers, leaving their families to wonder what on earth happened to them. At the same time, anonymous bodies are filling cemeteries in South Africa's Gauteng province, or in the coastal Tunisian town of Zarzis. Similar cemeteries dot Italy, Greece and Libya.

An Associated Press tally has documented more than 56,800 migrants dead or missing worldwide since 2014 — almost double the number found in the world's only official attempt to try to count them, by the U.N.'s International Organization for Migration. The IOM toll as of Oct. 1 was more than 28,500. The AP came up with almost 28,300 additional dead or missing migrants by compiling information from other international groups, forensic records, missing persons reports, death records, and examining data from thousands of interviews with mi-

grants. The AP's tally is also certainly an undercount. Bodies

and Barhoumi hasn't been heard from since. In a sign of faith that he is alive, his

fall through the cracks. The political tide is turning against migrants in Europe

ment, funding for this work has been cut off.

Beyond Europe, information is even more scarce. Even in the U.S., where migration has turned into a hot-button issue, there is no routine effort to figure out where migrants may disappear or die, nor a policy on identifying bodies and notifying families. And little is known about the toll in South America, where the Venezuelan migration is among the world's biggest today, and in Asia, the top region for numbers of migrants.

The result is that governments vastly underestimate the true toll of migration, a major political and social issue in most of the world today.

"No matter where you stand on the whole migration management debate ... these are still human beings on the move," said Bram Frouws, the head of the Mixed Migration Centre, which has done surveys of more than 20,000 migrants in its 4Mi project since 2014. "Whether it's refugees or people moving for jobs, they are human beings."

The missing include children, although once again the scant data is only in Europe. Some 2,773 children have been reported to the Red Cross as missing en route to Europe, and 2,097 adults reported missing by children. □



In this Thursday, April 12, 2018 photo, mortuary workers carry the coffin of an unidentified man for burial at a cemetery outside Johannesburg.

Associated Press

lie undiscovered in desert sands or at the bottom of the sea. And families don't always report loved ones as missing because they migrated illegally, or because they left home without saying exactly where they were headed.

Instead, families are caught between hope and mourning, like that of Safi al-Bahri. Her son, Majdi Barhoumi, left their hometown of Ras Jebel, Tunisia, on May 7, 2011 for Europe in a small boat with a dozen other migrants. The boat sank

mother and father built an animal pen with a brood of hens, a few cows and a dog to stand watch until he returns.

"I just wait for him. I always imagine him behind me, at home, in the market, everywhere," said al-Bahri. "When I hear a voice at night, I think he's come back. When I hear the sound of a motorcycle, I think my son is back."

The official U.N. toll extensively documents deaths in the Mediterranean and Europe, but even there cases

just as in the United States, where the government is cracking down heavily on caravans of Central Americans trying to get in. One result is that money is drying up for projects to track migration and its costs.

For example, when more than 800 people died in an April 2015 shipwreck off the coast of Italy, Europe's deadliest migrant sea disaster, Italian investigators pledged to identify them and find their families. More than three years later, under a new populist govern-



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Big risks in Judge Moro becoming Brazil justice minister

By **PETER PRENGAMAN**
Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — The Brazilian judge at the center of one of the largest corruption investigations in history said Thursday he would become justice minister in the government of President-elect Jair Bolsonaro, a decision that will be hailed by Brazilians eager for a crackdown on graft but also add to deep polarization after a bruising presidential campaign. Moro is wildly popular among conservatives and loathed by many on the left, so his decision to join the incoming administration will feed the suspicion of many Brazilians that the judge was politically biased in jailing ex-President Luiz Inacio da Silva, a conviction that forced the poll-leading leftist out of the presidential race. Moro met with Bolsonaro at the president-elect's home in Rio de Janeiro on Thursday. Upon emerging, Moro did not speak to reporters but soon put out a statement confirming he had accepted an offer to lead both the justice and public security ministries, which will be combined in Bolsonaro's government. Moro said it would be hard to give up being a federal judge after 22 years, but he saw an opportunity to "implement a strong agenda of anti-corruption and anti-organized crime" in his new role.

"In practice, this will mean consolidating the advancements against crime and corruption the last years and remove any risks



Judge Sergio Moro talks to the press as he exits a meeting with President-elect Jair Bolsonaro, outside Bolsonaro's home in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018.

of going backward," he wrote. He added that the sprawling "Car Wash" investigation would continue in the hands of local judges in the southern city of Curitiba, where Moro lives and many of the cases have been tried. He also said he would provide more details on his new role next week. Launched in 2014, the "Car Wash" probe uncovered elaborate schemes in which construction companies received bloated contracts and then kicked back billions of dollars in bribes to politicians and other government officials over more than a decade. The level of corruption was breathtaking for Brazilians long inured to graft, and the scandal has reverber-

ated across several Latin American countries where Odebrecht, one of the companies at the center of the scandal, did business. The investigation has led to the jailing of many of the country's biggest names. That list includes da Silva, convicted by Moro of corruption for trading favors with construction company Grupo OAS for the promise of a beachfront apartment. Da Silva began serving a 12-year sentence in April. The cases made Moro a wildly popular figure with Brazilians exhausted by numerous stories of politicians plundering government coffers; Earlier this year, he tracked highly in presidential polls even though the judge, quiet and wonky,

never expressed interest in running. However, many of his tactics have been highly controversial, such as the use of extended pre-trial detentions and plea bargains, both aimed at getting high-profile suspects to talk. On social media Thursday, many Brazilians shared a 2016 story in daily *Estado*, which quoted Moro saying he had no political ambitions.

"No, never. Never," he said when asked about running for office or getting into politics. "I am a man of the justice system."

Moro has been accused of being partisan, with supporters of da Silva and the left-leaning Workers' Party claiming Moro was at the center of a conspiracy to keep da Silva, who Brazil-

ians call Lula, from running for president this year. Even after being jailed, da Silva led preference polls. In September, his candidacy was barred.

"Moro will become Bolsonaro's minister after having a decisive role in his election (victory) by impeding Lula from running," tweeted Gleisi Hoffman, chairwoman of da Silva's Workers' Party, adding: "He helped elect. Now he'll help govern."

In reality, Moro has convicted politicians from across the political spectrum. But he has also made decisions that many interpret as biased, such as releasing wiretapped conversations between da Silva and then President Dilma Rousseff in 2016.

For Bolsonaro, a former army captain who ran on promises to crack down on graft and rising crime, landing Moro is a huge boon. Moro, who studied law in Brazil and did a special program at Harvard University, has received numerous awards and honorary degrees related to his work. He frequently speaks in the United States and other countries, and is arguably the world's most famous anti-corruption crusader. Members of the "Car Wash" task force have said much work remains, but it's hard to imagine any judge having the gravitas of Moro, who rose to fame because of his ability to sort through complicated white-collar crimes and write decisions that are rarely overturned. □

LOCAL



Stichting Monumenten fonds Aruba announces the re-opening of the California Lighthouse

ORANJESTAD —Last September Stichting Monumenten fonds Aruba (SMFA) announced the temporary closing of the lighthouse at Hudishibana to the public in order to negotiate with partners and in the meantime do small repairs on the building. Recently SMFA proudly announced that everything has been arranged and the Lighthouse is ready to re-open to the public.

After evaluating three different companies, the management of Stichting Monumenten fonds chose Experitours. They are the new partner that will be in charge of promoting the California Lighthouse and provide the tourists and locals an opportunity to climb the lighthouse and enjoy the magnificent view of Aruba.

Experitours has been active for a few days already providing fast track tours at the California Lighthouse and also seeing how to provide

more accessibility to the tour operators seeing the big demand there is for visiting this marvelous landmark. Another successful activity was the Halloween event held there last week-end.

The California Lighthouse was built between 1914 and 1916 and is one of the fifteen monuments that belongs to the Stichting Monumenten fonds Aruba. In 2015 the lighthouse was completely renovated and in 2016 was open for the public for the first time in history. For the period of two years Faro Blanco Restaurant was in charge of this and now it's Experitours turn to be part of the history of the lighthouse at Westpunt. The California Lighthouse is open daily from 9 Am until 7 PM.

Stichting Monumenten fonds would like to welcome Experitours to their family of lessors of their monuments and wishes them all the best. □



The Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) discussing the future of the National Parks



ORANJESTAD — The board of the Dutch Caribbean Nature Alliance (DCNA) came to Aruba this week for the regular six-monthly meeting. Within the DCNA, national park organizations

of the six with the Netherlands and each other inter-connected islands work together. The meeting was hosted by Arikok National Park.

Discussions included the further strengthening of the cooperation between the different parks, fundraising for new joint activities and projects, the rebuilding of the Windward Islands and the tackling of inter-island problems, such as the sargassum seaweed and the control of harmful invasive species such as the lion fish or the boa constrictor. The Governor, the Prime Minister and the Minister of Education were also present at the festive reception after the meeting. In April next year the discussions will be continued during a subsequent meeting on Sint Maarten. □



Aruba College Fair for YOU



ORANJESTAD — The Aruba College Fair is for anybody and everybody seeking a higher education: EPB, MAVO, HAVO and VWO students looking to start higher education at MBO, HBO and WO levels; EPI students looking to continue their higher education; UA students wishing to continue their studies or transfer abroad; working people looking to upgrade themselves.

Aruba College Fair takes place every other year. The next Aruba College Fair will take place today and Saturday, 2 & 3 November 2018 at the Renaissance Convention Center from 10:00 – 18:00. The University of Aruba presents programs in technology and sustainable development. At every college fair, different institutions participate. Participating exhibitors are uploaded on the College Fair's web page, the complete list of participating colleges and universities is available.

The University of Aruba will provide information about a new bachelor program (BAsc.) with three specializations: Bio-environmental studies, Informatics and Technology & Engineering. This 3 year full time program will be offered in English

and is focused on sustainable development in island states. The program is set up in collaboration with the Catholic University Leuven, a renowned European university with extensive experience in these disciplines.

Students that will complete this program, will be able to enter the labor market in a broad variety of technical functions in the industry, the public sector, laboratories, as well as in developmental agencies and environmental organizations.

Thanks to the broad character of the program, the graduates will have a background that allows them to adapt to the ever changing labor market of the future. The profile of the graduates will be co-determining for their suitability for more specialized functions.

Information about the program, admission requirements and specializations will be available at the UA-booth at the college fair, more information can be obtained by mail: stem@ua.aw.

For more information about the fair, visit the Facebook page: Aruba College Fair Foundation and website www.arubacollegefair.com. □

Turn Your Lights on High



ORANJESTAD — Holiday season is knocking on the door and therefore this evening the Main Street of Oranjestad will be joyfully lit.

The inauguration of the 'City of Lights' is combined with a Shopping Night and live Christmas music by Grupo di Betico and Las Unicas, just in front of Mango store. Come and join in on a bit of typical Aruban holiday fever tonight from 6 PM. □



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Honoring the Hollenbach's at the Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

ORANJESTAD — Recently, Mario Ar-ends of Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Loyal and Friendly visitors of Aruba as Distinguished Visitors. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Transportation, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20 and more consecutive years.

The Honorees are Mr. Eric & Mrs. Cindy Hollenbach from Pennsylvania. The event which commemorates their 10th consecutive visit to the island was held at the Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort. They have been coming to Aruba for many consecutive years. The Hollenbach's loves coming to the island for the consistently warm weather, best beaches and great restaurants.

Mario together with representatives of Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort, presented the certificate to the honorees and handed over some presents to them and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



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“Stamps of Fauna 2018” have been launched

ORANJESTAD — Post Aruba N.V. launched a new series of stamps called “Stamps of fauna 2018”. The series consists of 6 stamps with values of 90 cents, 100 cents, 130 cents, 135 cents, 220 cents and 500 cents. This collection is available together with the envelope of the 1st day of issue. The stamps were

designed by Elvis Tromp and printed at the Johan Enschede Security Print in the Netherlands

The illustrations on the stamps are all domestic animals. The most popular ones are cats and dogs. Most of us have a domestic animal as a companion but also for



protection or just for fun. Other domestic animals we take care of are rabbits, turtles, fish, birds and hamsters just to mention a few. There are many benefits of having an animal at home there for this series of stamps is dedicated to our beloved domestic animals. The 90 cents stamp illustrates cats playing with a ball of yarn. The 100 cents stamp illustrates a girl with her dog. The 130 cents stamp illustrates a teen holding her rabbit. The 135 cents stamp illustrates a boy watching his fishes in the

aquarium. The 220 cents stamp illustrates a baby turtle being fed. The 500 cents stamp illustrates birds communicating to each other in their cage.

This series of stamps is available at the Post offices in Oranjestad, Santa Cruz and San Nicolas. For more information regarding these stamps please contact the Department of Philatelic located at J.E. Irausquinplein 9, Oranjestad or call at 528-7678. Or visit their Facebook page Aruba Stamps. □

Team Aruba finishes 2018 with strong appearance at PDRA World Finals

DINWIDDIE, Va.: The PDRA World Finals is always a highly anticipated event. Championships are on the line. Weather is typically some of the best the series sees all year, leading to record breaking numbers. And this is every racer's last chance to make an impact on the season.

Team Aruba has enjoyed a series of highs since debuting their new 2018 Aruba.com Mustang in September. Their standout performance continued for this final event of the year, despite team changes and adverse weather conditions.

The regular driver of the Aruba.com Mustang, Trevor Eman, stayed home in Aruba, awaiting the arrival of his second child. John Bartunek was tapped to fill his seat and adjusted to the car quickly, taking Team Aruba to a number 3 qualifying spot with a 4.048 effort. He then



beat John Pluchino first round with an impressive 4.022 pass. At that point, the race was postponed due to unsafe conditions. “This turned out to be a race with

more competition from the weather than from our loyal competitors,” joked team owner, Ven Eman. “We had a very impressive field of Mountain Motor Pro Stocks with 17

cars, but Mother Nature was not on our side during this race. We had one day great weather, then lots and lots of rain and to top it off freezing low 30 degree weather.” Unfortunately, Team Aruba's race efforts were cut short. Team members had commitments on Monday and could not stay for the remainder of the postponed event. “We hated to leave Virginia with a 4.02 on the table. Driver John Bartunek did a great job, which made it a more difficult decision to head home. We were also shorthanded during this race, but the guys did a tremendous job. Doug, John Peterson and John Bartunek - thank you for the good work on behalf of the people of Aruba.

“Although we didn't get to see how well we could finish at our final event of the season, we know this team has what it takes to run at the top. We're extremely excited for the 2019 season!” □

SPORTS



This Aug. 1, 2018 photo shows gamblers placing bets in the sports betting lounge at Harrah's casino in Atlantic City N.J. On Oct. 30, 2018, Caesars Entertainment, which owns Harrah's and two other Atlantic City casinos, announced a deal to open a sports lounge at Newark's Prudential Center aimed at hockey fans and concertgoers who can place sports bets over their mobile phones.

Associated Press

Legalized sports betting is one bet paying off

By TIM DAHLBERG
AP Sports Columnist

The action is coming fast and heavy. A bettor in New Jersey used his mobile app to win \$325,000 on a \$500,000 wager on Boston to win the World Series. Another DraftKings bettor hit a longshot money line parlay on longshots Oregon State and Kansas to collect \$4,313 on his \$50 bet. Many others, surely, will be scrambling to pay the rent next month after their can't-miss bets somehow missed. For better or worse, sports betting is here to stay. Bettors are crowding into books in the six states where sports betting is now legal, and other states are lining up to open their markets to wagers.

Continued on Page



Rose scores career-high 50 as T-wolves top Jazz 128-125

Minnesota Timberwolves' Derrick Rose, left, shoots as Utah Jazz's Derrick Favors defends during the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2018, in Minneapolis. The Timberwolves won 128-125. Rose scored a career-high 50 points.

Associated Press
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Biles, not at exquisite best, wins 4th all-around at worlds



Gold medallist and four-times All-Around world champion Simone Biles of the U.S., and bronze medallist Morgan Hurd of the U.S., right, celebrate with the national flag after the Women's All-Around Final of the Gymnastics World Championships at the Aspire Dome in Doha, Qatar, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018.

Associated Press

By WILL GRAVES

AP Sports Writer

DOHA, Qatar (AP) — Simone Biles attempted to smile but her eyes betrayed her. She was angry, paying little attention to the gold medal around her neck, the one that made history. Yes, winning never gets old. It's just not why she does this.

The challenge whenever the greatest gymnast of her and any other generation steps onto the floor isn't to impress the judges so much as to meet her own impossibly high standards. The one that keeps nudging the 21-year-old to propel herself and her sport forward. And for two hours Thursday, for the first time in a long time, the momentum slowed. At least in the eyes of Biles, who didn't exactly sound like someone who had just become the first woman to win four world all-around championships, a feat she pulled off despite a handful of uncharacteristic errors to beat Japan's Mai Murakami and

American teammate Morgan Hurd by more than 1.6 points.

It's a sizable margin for nearly everyone else, but not for Biles. Battling a kidney stone that she insists is manageable, she sat down her vault in the first rotation, came off the beam on her third and stepped out of bounds on floor exercise.

"It's not the gymnast that I am, to go out there and kind of bomb a meet like this," said Biles after posting an all-around score of 57.491. "Even though I won, I wish it were a little bit different."

Only it wasn't, a testament to the massive difficulty Biles packs into each event. What she's doing on floor exercise is as hard as anything the men can come up with. The vault — the one that will carry her name when code of points is updated — is so tough no other woman even attempts it in competition. Doing anything else would be "boring" as her coach Laurent Landi put it. Yet

Biles doesn't use the remarkably high start values of her routines as an excuse when she doesn't hit them. There is no grading on a curve, at least not in her head.

Biles jokingly asked Landi if she needed an 18 — a score not currently possible in gymnastics — heading into her floor exercise to catch Murakami. The deficit was actually 13.308 points, totally doable. Biles briefly thought about toning down her boundary pushing set for something a bit easier just to make sure she won. The internal waver was fleeting.

"I would never," Biles said. Playing it safe simply isn't her style. While her right foot did slip into the red out of bounds during her first tumbling pass, it hardly mattered. Her score of 15.000 was more than enough to rocket past Murakami and Hurd, the 2017 world champion.

"It's absolutely insane that she fell twice and won," Hurd said. "I have no

words."

Neither did Biles, at least not any positive ones.

Most meets with Biles typically start the same. She drills the vault — where she is the reigning Olympic champion — and then spends the next three rotations simply padding her lead to margins that look like typos.

Not this time. Attempting "the Biles" — a roundoff, half-twist onto the table, front double full off typically done by men — her left arm barely touched the table, causing her to under-rotate. She landed and promptly sat down, her score of 14.533 placing her in third.

Known for getting angry with herself after mistakes, she responded with her significantly improved uneven bars set and executed her double-twisting double-somersault dismount to move slightly in front of Hurd halfway through. Then things got weird.

Biles came off the beam early, hopped back up

then grabbed the 4-inch piece of wood moments later when she had trouble landing a front flip, a sequence she struggled with during qualifying. It was a stunning sequence, not just to Biles but to the group that has been chasing her for the better part of decade.

Given what looked like an opening, Murakami — the first Japanese woman to win a world all-around medal in nine years — kept it real.

"Instead of expecting I can win, I felt like, 'oh, Biles can fall,'" Murakami said.

Hurd had a chance to catch her good friend but wobbled twice during her own beam set, leaving the 17-year-old in a "rage" as she headed to floor while also leaving Biles in the lead, where she is the Olympic champion.

While Hurd put together what U.S. high performance coordinator Tom Forster called "the best routine I've ever seen her do" it wasn't quite enough to slide past Murakami.

Still, Biles stepped onto the floor facing external pressure for the first time in a long time. She came through but her emotions on the medal stand tilted more toward disappointment than joy.

"It just sucks that I did so bad and I still won," said Biles, who plans to compete in all four event finals. "I wish it could not happen. You have to earn it, and I'm not sure I earned it tonight." That's not exactly true. Her routines are so much more challenging than the rest of the world's she can afford a slip up here or there. And while she could simply employ the same skills as everyone else and probably win on execution scores alone, that wouldn't be any fun.

"She has (such) great ability that she needs to push it to the limit," Landi said. "And when it goes very well, it's amazing. When it doesn't go well, it's still good enough." Even on days she thinks it isn't. □

Rose scores career-high 50 points, Timberwolves beat Jazz

By The Associated Press
MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Derrick Rose scored a career-high 50 points in a vintage performance that lifted the Minnesota Timberwolves over the Utah Jazz 128-125 on Wednesday night. An emotional Rose was in tears after the game as he walked off the court serenaded by chants of "MVP! MVP!" from the home crowd. The 30-year-old point guard has been derailed by injuries since winning the 2011 NBA MVP award. He had 34 points in the second half and 15 in a tightly contested fourth quarter as the Wolves held off the Jazz, who waived Rose in February after a two-day stint. Rose shot 19 of 31 from the field and hit four 3-pointers. He played 41 minutes, his most in nearly two years. His basket down low with 30 seconds remaining put Minnesota up for good, and he made two free throws with 13.8 seconds left to make it a three-point lead. Jae Crowder and Joe Ingles each missed a 3-pointer that could have tied it for Utah. Rose then blocked a 3-point try by Dante Exum with 2.7 seconds to go, and the Timberwolves grabbed the loose ball to seal it. Making his first start of the season, Rose scored 19 points in the third quarter as the Timberwolves took a five-point lead into the fourth. Karl-Anthony Towns added nine of his 28 points in the period. Donovan Mitchell scored 26 points, and Rudy Gobert added 22 for Utah.

WARRIORS 131, PELICANS 121
OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Stephen Curry had 37 points for his sixth 30-point game of the season, and Golden State beat New Orleans for its sixth straight win. Curry had seven 3-pointers and nine assists, Kevin Durant added 24 points and eight assists, and Draymond Green contributed 16 points, 15 rebounds and eight assists for his first double-double of the season. Green has 50 assists in the

last five games for the Warriors, who finished with a season-high 39 assists. Klay Thompson scored 18 points with one 3-pointer for the Warriors two days after setting an NBA record with 14 3s and scoring 52 in a blowout road win against the Bulls.

LAKERS 114, MAVERICKS 113
LOS ANGELES (AP) — LeBron James scored 29 points and made the game-winning free throw with 2.1 seconds left as Los Angeles held off Dallas. The Lakers led nearly throughout and were up 111-98 with 3:42 to go before the Mavericks went on a 15-2 run to pull even with 7 seconds remaining. Luka Doncic tied it at 113 on a jumper from the corner, but James was fouled by Wesley Matthews while shooting a jump shot. James missed the first free throw but made the second, and the Lakers (3-5) stopped a two-game skid. JaVale McGee added 16 points and 15 rebounds, and Kyle Kuzma scored 18 for the Lakers. Matthews led Dallas with 21 points and Harrison Barnes scored 19. The Mavericks (2-6) have lost five straight.

SPURS 120, SUNS 90
PHOENIX (AP) — DeMar DeRozan scored 20 of his 25 points in the first half, LaMarcus Aldridge added 24 and San Antonio routed Phoenix for its third consecutive victory. The Spurs led by 31 in the second quarter en route to a fifth straight win over Phoenix. Aldridge scored 16 points in the third, then he and DeRozan sat out the fourth with the Spurs comfortably ahead. The duo combined to make 20 of 25 shots. The Suns have lost six straight and joined Cleveland and Washington at 1-6, tied for the NBA's worst record. T.J. Warren, in his first start of the season, led Phoenix with 21 points. Phoenix played its third game in a row without star guard Devin Booker, who is still dealing with a hamstring strain.



Minnesota Timberwolves' Derrick Rose, right, takes a fall-back shot as Utah Jazz's Dante Exum defends during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2018, in Minneapolis. Associated Press

PACERS 107, KNICKS 101
NEW YORK (AP) — Domantas Sabonis matched his career high with 30 points, Victor Oladipo scored 11 of his 24 points in the fourth quarter and Indiana beat New York. Indiana trailed 97-94 with 3:08 left before Oladipo got hot. Sabonis hit two

free throws, and then Oladipo picked off Tim Hardaway Jr.'s lazy dribble and threw down a breakaway dunk for a 98-97 lead. Indiana scored the next five points, capped by Oladipo's 3-pointer with 1:23 left, to make it 103-97. Hardaway led the Knicks with 37 points, and Noah

Vonleh had 14 points and 10 rebounds. New York has lost six of seven since winning on opening night. Alonzo Trier's basket cut New York's deficit to 103-101 with 44 seconds left, but Thaddeus Young found Oladipo open in front of the Knicks bench for a 3-pointer. □

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Vancouver Canucks' Jake Virtanen (18) celebrates his second goal against Chicago Blackhawks goalie Corey Crawford (50), during the second period of an NHL hockey game Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2018, in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Associated Press

Virtanen scores twice as Canucks beat Blackhawks 4-2

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Before the Canucks started their season, coach Travis Green said he wanted his team to "score by committee." Vancouver did just that Wednesday night in a 4-2 victory over the Chicago Blackhawks.

Jake Virtanen scored twice, Brendan Gaunce got the go-ahead goal midway through the third period and Antoine Roussel also found the net for the Canucks.

"It's easier said than done, but any team that wins in this league has secondary scoring usually," Green said. "You need guys at certain times to step up.

It's not one or two or three guys that can score every night." It was the first two-goal game of Virtanen's career. At one point in the third period, it appeared he might have a chance at a hat trick, but the 22-year-old right wing chose not to push it.

"I didn't want to go out of position or anything," he said. "I wanted to make sure we weren't getting scored on. ... We'd rather just secure the win and call it a day."

Jacob Markstrom made 24 saves for Vancouver.

Brandon Saad and Jonathan Toews scored for the Blackhawks. Corey Crawford turned away 24 shots, but coach Joel Quenneville thought turnovers were a big problem.

"I think it was self-inflicted on the goals against," he said. "Preventable, all of them, and they turned turnovers into the back of the net." The team got sloppy with the puck, according to Saad.

"A couple posts and unlucky bounces, but regardless we have to tighten up defensively," he said. "We give that team that much rush chances and time and space and they are going to capitalize. It definitely wasn't good enough defensively."

Gaunce scored at 9:23 of the third after he snatched up a Chicago pass. The goal was the sixth of his NHL career, with the last one coming on Feb. 1.

"I just tried to get it off as quick as I could," he said. "I knew (Crawford) was coming out and he was a little bit off because it was such a quick play and I just tried to get it up."

Gaunce also assisted on Roussel's late goal in his first game with the Canucks this season. He was called up Tuesday from the Utica Comets of the AHL to help fill out a roster riddled by injuries.

The 24-year-old said he was playing with a bit of a chip on his shoulder.

"I want to be in the NHL,

and at the start of the year. I obviously wasn't, so there was a reason for that," Gaunce said. "You come in here with the mentality that you're going to make a difference and you're going to kind of make them have to keep you."

Chicago got on the scoreboard first with Saad scoring his third of the season midway through the first period. The left wing beat Canucks defenseman Erik Gudbranson in Vancouver's end and put a hard shot on net. Markstrom appeared to get a piece of it but the puck trickled in underneath him.

Virtanen responded in the 15th minute after the Blackhawks turned over the puck in the neutral zone. He picked up speed on a breakaway and put a high shot past Crawford.

The Blackhawks went back on top with a power-play goal early in the second after Canucks defenseman Michael Del Zotto took a cross-checking penalty late in the first.

Toews fired in a wrist from the top of the faceoff circle to give him 299 goals for the Blackhawks, sixth-most in franchise history.

Chicago is 30th in the NHL on the power play. Wednesday marked the sixth time this season the Blackhawks have scored with the man advantage.

Virtanen followed with his second of the night just more than 12 minutes into the second period. He scooped up a pass just inside the blue line and fired a quick shot past Crawford to tie it 2-all. Virtanen has five goals and two assists this season.

NOTES: Blackhawks star Patrick Kane sat out due to illness, the first time he's been out of the lineup since breaking his collarbone in February 2015. ... Vancouver defenseman Troy Stecher left midway through the third after colliding with Chicago's Brandon Manning. Green said Stecher went through mandatory concussion testing and is fine. □

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Molly Huddle among American women's surge at NYC Marathon

By MELISSA MURPHY

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Shalane Flanagan set the bar high for her U.S. compatriots last year, becoming the first American woman in 40 years to win the New York City Marathon.

Desiree Linden followed with a victory in April at the windy and rainy Boston Marathon, the first American woman to accomplish that feat in 33 years.

Those achievements motivate Molly Huddle, who finished third at the 2016 NYC Marathon in her debut at 26.2 miles after a successful middle-distance career.

"We have a very talented group of women knocking on the door," Huddle said.

The 34-year-old from up-state New York is among that group. At the 2016 Rio Olympics, Huddle broke Flanagan's 10,000-meter American record from the 2008 Beijing Games.

In January, Huddle broke Deena Kastor's 2006 American record at the Houston Half Marathon. Kastor, who won bronze in the marathon at the 2004 Athens Olympics, watched Huddle surpass her record in Texas. "Some of the other American women already have the accolades under their belt," Kastor said. "Molly is coming in a little more hungry."

So I think we'll see something special out of her on Sunday."

Huddle recently trained for two months in Arizona in the high altitude of Flagstaff and Scottsdale. She earned state championship titles in cross country at Notre Dame High School in Elmira, New York, (which didn't have a girls' track team) and set a school record in the 5,000 at the University of Notre Dame.



In this June 21, 2018, file photo, Molly Huddle crosses the finish line as she win the women's 10,000-meter run at the U.S. Championships athletics meet in Des Moines, Iowa.

Associated Press

She lives and trains in Providence, Rhode Island, where her longtime coach Ray Treacy is the track coach at Providence College. She's married to Kurt Benninger, who also ran middle distance at Notre Dame and is part of her support team.

The 5-foot-4 Huddle called it a "confidence boost" to finish on the podium in her first marathon.

While pleased with her NYC Marathon result, she didn't expect "so many solo miles" when dropping behind the pack during the five-borough race.

"It's the ultimate challenge in the running world," Huddle said of the event, noting the uphill portion of the Queensboro Bridge at Mile 15 as the hardest part of the route.

She got a stitch in her side on First Avenue, where crowds are often the largest and loudest. But the best part came during the Central Park finish where "a lot of people are yelling your name."

She calls the marathon a "mature athletic event" that's based on endurance and strength.

"You can't be impetuous in a marathon," Huddle said. "Everything is going great, great, great and then with 4 miles to go, you're on your back. You need to read your body really well. You hope one day your potential is No. 1."

She hit the wall during the Boston Marathon, where she finished 16th and struggled with an infected tooth and hypothermia in 30-degree temperatures, whip-

ping wind and a downpour.

"Weather is a big part of the marathon, it magnifies everything," she said. Temperatures are forecast in the 50s on Sunday.

Defending champion Flanagan and Linden are in the field, along with Kenyans Mary Keitany and Vivian Cheruiyot. Last year, Flanagan brought it home to a cheering crowd against a fading Keitany.

"She really captivated everybody watching, the 2 million people on the streets, those of us glued to our televisions or here at the finish line to welcome her at Central Park," Kastor said. "It was an extraordinary performance."

Kastor will be rooting for Huddle, who looked to her as a role model during her

college days.

Huddle aims to make the U.S. team for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

"Molly has such a great range and she's pushing it into the marathon," said Kastor, who received the Abebe Bikila Award for outstanding contribution to the sport on Thursday. "She could really make the team in whatever event she chooses — 5K, 10K and marathon."

Huddle attributes the surge of American women in the marathon to watching Kastor, Flanagan and others perform at nationals and on the Olympic stage. She says "once you see it is possible" it helps "shift your subconscious."

"It's raised the bar," Huddle said. "It's more encouraging than anything." □

Federer and Djokovic reach Paris Masters quarterfinals

By **JEROME PUGMIRE**
AP Sports Writer

PARIS (AP) — Roger Federer's bid for a 100th career title remains on as he beat Fabio Fognini 6-4, 6-3 on Thursday to reach the Paris Masters quarterfinals.

If he wins that, against Kei Nishikori, he could face Novak Djokovic in the semifinals — but Federer is thinking more about winning the season-ending ATP Finals, which start Nov. 11.

"My objective is London. If I can do well here in Paris and beat (Djokovic), all the better," Federer said. "But I'm not there yet. We'll see."

Federer, 37 and returning to the tournament for the first time since 2015, was hardly tested as he beat Fognini for the fourth time in four matches. He was fresh after Milos Raonic pulled out injured before their second-round match on Wednesday.

"It was welcome because my body needed it," Federer said. "I needed an extra day and this is what I got. It was a lot of luck."

A double break of serve put Federer 4-1 up before Fognini broke back with a backhand winner down the line. Fognini had a chance to pressure Federer in the 10th game when the 20-time Grand Slam cham-

pion was 15-40 down on serve.

But Federer, who got through a few difficult situations last week on his way to winning the Swiss Indoors for the ninth time, saved both and then held to clinch the first set.

Federer responded well in the eighth game of the second set, again saving two break points at 15-40 down on his way to leading 5-3. Fognini cracked in the next game and was broken to love, double faulting on match point.

Federer was given a standing ovation after his win.

"It was wonderful to have such a welcome from the French public," he said. "The atmosphere was wonderful."

Djokovic also feels at home in Paris. He is chasing a record-extending fifth Paris Masters title and advanced toward that when Damir Dzumhur retired trailing 6-1, 2-1. Dzumhur had a lengthy massage on his lower back late in the first set. But Djokovic was in total control and did not face a break point, breaking Dzumhur's serve three times.

Djokovic, who will reclaim the No. 1 ranking next week regardless of where he finishes, faces Marin Cilic in the quarterfinals.

"I'm obviously very proud



Serbia's Novak Djokovic smiles as he arrives to plays against Bosnia and Herzegovina's Damir Dzumhur during their third round match of the Paris Masters tennis tournament at the Bercy Arena in Paris, France, Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018.

Associated Press

of the achievement," said Djokovic, whose ranking slipped to No. 22 in May as he struggled to shake off a persistent elbow problem. "Five months ago, if you told me that (I would be No. 1 now), it was highly improbable at that time considering my ranking and the way I played and felt on the court."

Although Djokovic leads Cilic 15-3 overall, Cilic won two of their past three matches — including two years ago in the Paris Mas-

ters quarterfinals.

"He has a big serve and big game from back of the court. It's just a very powerful style of tennis," Djokovic said. "Tough to receive his missiles. You know, first serves are really, really fast, and he uses a lot of rotation and variation with his serve."

The 10th-seeded Nishikori did not face break points in beating the seventh-seeded Anderson — the Wimbledon runner-up to Djokovic — 6-4, 6-4.

Earlier, fifth-seeded Cilic beat ninth-seeded Grigor Dimitrov 7-6 (5), 6-4, needing six set points to win the first set.

Cilic trailed 5-4 during the tiebreaker but won both points on Dimitrov's serve before serving out the first set.

Fourth-seeded Alexander Zverev saved all four break points he faced in beating Diego Schwartzman 6-4, 6-2.

Zverev next faces unseeded Karen Khachanov. □



In this Aug. 6, 2018, file photo, Chicago Cubs' Jason Heyward reacts after scoring in the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Kansas City Royals at Kauffman Stadium in Kansas City, Mo.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Chicago Cubs outfielder Jason Heyward and San Francisco reliever Mark Melancon let

the deadline pass for exercising opt-out provisions in their contracts.

Doing the same were two

Cubs' Jason Heyward, Giants' Mark Melancon keep contracts

Cuban outfielders who have been major disappointments and spent all of this season in the minor leagues: Boston's Rusney Castillo and Arizona's Yasmany Tomas.

Heyward keeps the \$184 million, eight-year deal that pays him \$106 million in the next five seasons. The others all have two years left in their contracts: Melancon is owed \$28 million, Tomas \$32.5 million and Castillo \$24.5 million.

They all had to make their decisions by Wednesday night.

The 29-year-old Heyward, who in 2016 helped the Cubs to their first title in 108 years, hit .270 with eight homers and 58 RBIs in 127 games this season. He is owed \$20 million in 2019, \$21 million in each of the following two seasons and \$22 million apiece in the final two years.

If he has 550 plate appearances next year, he would again have the right to void the deal and become a free agent.

Melancon, 33, was 1-4 with a 3.23 ERA and three saves in 41 relief appearances,

allowing 11.1 hits per nine innings for the second straight year and a .302 opponents' batting average in 2018. He has made 73 appearances in the first two seasons of a \$62 million, four-year deal and is due \$14 million in each of the final two seasons.

The 31-year-old Castillo has appeared in just 99 games since agreeing in August 2014 to a \$72.5 million, seven-year contract and has not played in the major leagues since he was sent outright to the minors on June 20, 2016. □

WADA president turns criticism to U.S. sports leagues

By **ROB HARRIS**
AP Sports Writer

LONDON (AP) — Facing increased criticism over Russia's reinstatement, World Anti-Doping Agency president Craig Reedie responded to one of his harshest detractors by pointing out that the major American sports leagues routinely ignore international guidelines.

Reedie, speaking in an interview with The Associated Press on Thursday at a WADA event, again defended the plan to rehabilitate Russia following a three-year ban for corrupting sporting events, including the 2014 Sochi Olympics, by covering up doping.

Critics, including U.S. Anti-Doping Agency chief executive Travis Tygart, have said Reedie's objectivity has been compromised because he is also a member of the International Olympic Committee and that he should leave one of the positions.

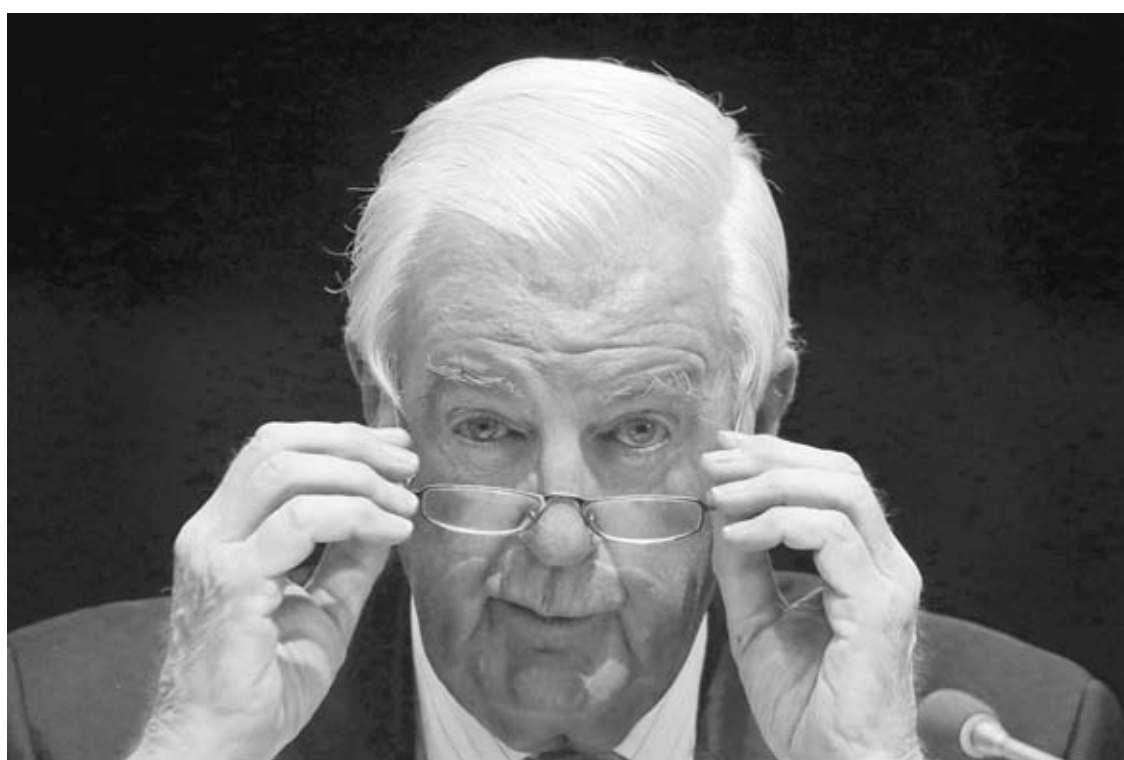
"He should be aware that the rest of the world is asking questions about why he spends quite so much

time criticizing the organization who is actually doing almost everything he wants done as opposed to looking after his own backyard," Reedie said.

"They have their own rules," Reedie added. "They have a completely different system of agreement on how the sport is conducted. I just think I would like USADA or somebody in the United States ... to go and speak to the players' unions and suggest to them that the whole development of clean sport would set a very good example if that could be done in the United States."

Reedie said he has tried to persuade NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell to get football subject to the WADA code.

"The league is actually answerable to the owners," Reedie said of the teams. "There is a general belief in the United States that instead of sanctioning maybe you should try the rehabilitation you know as a principle. I don't think that's necessarily wrong. But harmonization with the rest of the world is difficult if that's



In this Thursday, Nov. 16, 2017 file photo, World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) President Craig Reedie adjusts his glasses during a press conference in Seoul.

Associated Press

your priority." Reedie was speaking a day after an event in Washington where Olympic athletes joined the acting White House drug czar and anti-doping officials from seven other countries in calling on the WADA to reform its governance.

"They've been saying roughly this for the last two

and half years," Reedie said. "It's repetitive."

Reedie has another year to go in his second three-year term as WADA president. His tenure began in 2013.

The WADA presidency rotates between representatives of governments and sporting bodies. The agency gets half of its funding from governments around

the world and the other half from the Olympic movement. Despite WADA investigators finding that a state-sponsored doping program was run from Moscow, the Russians haven't had to accept the full findings before being readmitted to the anti-doping agency, which allows them to test athletes again. □

SPORTS BETTING

Continued from Page 17

And as it spreads nationwide, sports betting is changing the way America's biggest sports approach the game.

The NHL this week announced a deal with casino giant MGM Resorts International that officially ties the league to a gambling company. That follows a similar deal MGM made earlier with the NBA. It's only a matter of time before the NFL joins in to get a piece of the pie, and baseball wants its share, too. Meanwhile, regulators in Nevada announced Tuesday that sports books took in a record handle — and had record profits — in September as the stigma that once haunted sports betting fades into the background.

"Our ticket count is through

the roof," said Jimmy Vaccaro, the longtime odds-maker at the sports book at the South Point in Las Vegas. "It's driven with new people who are playing. The same old people are there each week and now it's the recreational guys showing up."

Those running America's sports leagues are taking notice. There's money to be made, and they're wasting no time in going after it. A top Major League Baseball executive said earlier this month the league wants a 0.25 percent cut of betting handles in the spirit of "fairness" because it supplies the games bettors wager on.

And the NFL — which was so concerned about betting a few years ago that it wouldn't allow Tony Romo to host a fantasy sports conference in a casino —



This Aug. 1, 2018 photo shows a clerk collecting money from gamblers in the sports betting lounge at Harrah's casino in Atlantic City N.J. On Oct. 30, 2018, Caesars Entertainment, which owns Harrah's and two other Atlantic City casinos, announced a deal to open a sports lounge at Newark's Prudential Center aimed at hockey fans and concertgoers who can place sports bets over their mobile phones.

Associated Press

is now trying to figure out how to maximize betting revenues for its teams. How quickly things have changed since the Supreme Court decision in May opened the floodgates to nationwide bet-

ting. There's no more moral indignation from the leagues. No more hand wringing about possible betting scandals.

Just a mad dash to get a piece of the action in a

market that will be worth billions of dollars.

Fortunately, there's enough money to make everyone happy in the end. The bookies are plenty sharp and the bettors plenty gullible, a combination that will lead to riches in the industry. Is it all good? No, because there is a cost associated with sports betting just as there is with any other vice that separates people from their money. Expect plenty of stories about bad beats and chasing money long since gone. Families will break up, and people will become homeless because a gambling addiction can be ruinous.

The bottom line is there aren't many who can beat the bookies, at least in the long term. The bettor who won a half million on the Red Sox will find that out, as will the longshot bettor who thinks the next parlay will finally be the one he wins. □

Why is it so hard to text 911?



This March 15, 2018, file photo shows a 911 call center in Roswell, Ga., with one of the computer screens used by dispatchers shows a text message that has come into the system.

By **MAE ANDERSON**

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — People can livestream their every move on Facebook and chatter endlessly in group chats. But in most parts of the U.S., they still can't reach 911 by texting — an especially important service during mass shootings and other catastrophes when a phone call could place someone in danger. Although text-to-911 service is slowly expanding, the emphasis there is on "slow." Limited funds, piecemeal adoption and outdated call-center technology have all helped sty-

mie growth.

Emergency 911 centers stress that a phone call is still the best way to reach them, since calls provide them with location data and other needed details. But in some cases — for instance, if a person has a hearing disability, or when a call might attract the attention of assailants — texting is a far better way to call for help.

The 911 emergency system was developed for landlines. But now about 80 percent of U.S. 911 calls come from cellphones, according to the federal government's National 911

Program. There is no legal requirement for call centers to offer text-to-911 services. If a center requests the service from mobile companies like Verizon or Sprint, however, the companies are required to provide it within six months.

More money would speed implementation. "We need a significant federal grant program to modernize 911 systems across the country," said Jeff Cohen, chief counsel at advocacy group the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials.

Congressional legislation could speed adoption of

text-to-911, and while there are two bills currently making their way through Congress related to the issue, they need more bipartisan support, Cohen said. Traditionally 911 call centers have been funded by a combination of state and local funding, rather than relying on federal grants. For that reason technology and adoption varies widely between states, cities and counties.

While some areas may have plenty of money to implement text-to-911 service, "others are cash strapped cities or communities that would rather spend money on a police car rather than text-to-911," said Brian Fontes, chief executive officer of the National Emergency Number Association. "When you don't have the money you have to prioritize what you do with the money you have."

The first text-to-911 was sent in 2009 in Iowa. Now, according to data collected by the Federal Communications Commission, more than 1,600 emergency call centers across the nation have configured systems to receive text message requests for 911 services, up from about 650 two years

ago. But that's barely a quarter of the roughly 6,000 overall in the country. Figures are a bit murky since they are self-reported to the FCC.

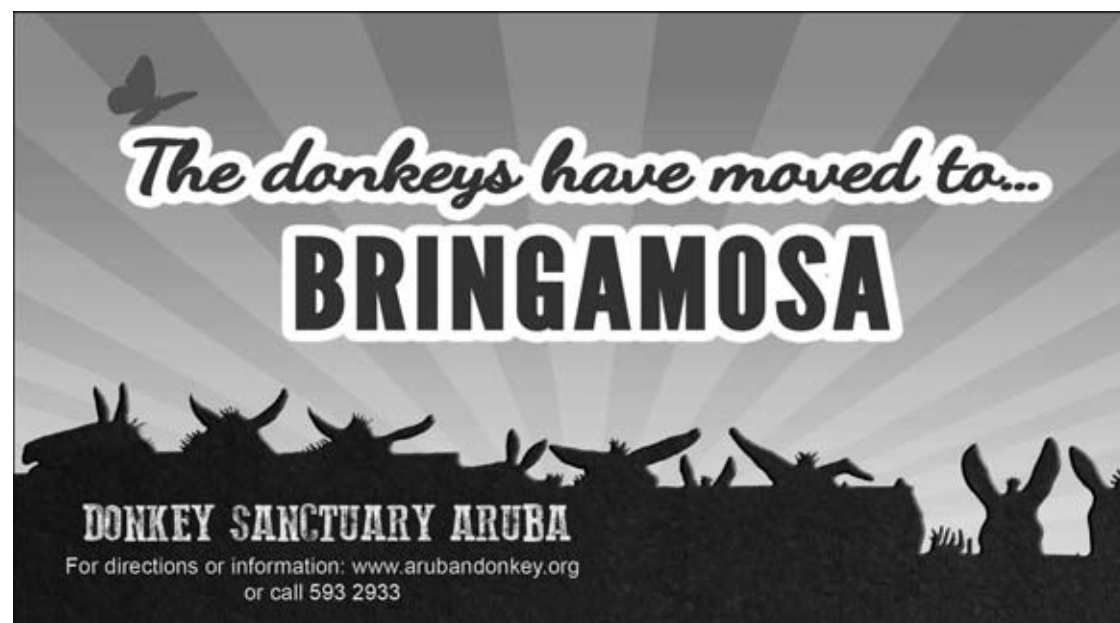
Implementing text-to-911 service usually starts with a state law requiring emergency centers to support it. Indiana, for example, has state 911 requirements set by the Indiana General Assembly and a state 911 board that oversees the operation of the statewide 911 network, which routes and delivers 911 voice and text messages from people to their local 911 authority. It pays for 911 from monthly end user surcharges, \$1 for landline, wireless and other types of phones, which are collected by phone service providers.

Four years after Indiana dispatch centers began adopting text-to-911 technology, residents in all 92 of the state's counties can send texts during emergencies if they're unable to speak to dispatchers, the state said in June. Minnesota, Connecticut, Maine and Vermont also offer statewide coverage.

Without state legislation, adopting text-to-911 can be more piecemeal. In California, a plan to raise taxes to pay for modernizing the 911 emergency dispatch system statewide fell one vote short in September in the Senate when Republicans refused to sign onto a tax increase.

But cities and municipalities can decide to support text-to-911 on their own. Los Angeles County, which includes cities like Los Angeles, Burbank and Glendale, has supported text-to-911 since late last year, for example.

Allegheny County in Pennsylvania, where the synagogue shooting took place, does offer text-to-911 service. But high school students hiding from a gunman in Parkland, Florida, last February, had to make whispered 911 calls to authorities. Broward County, which includes Parkland, plans to have text-to-911 in place by the end of this year. □



With employers eager to fill jobs, hiring could stay strong

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Against the backdrop of next week's midterm elections, the U.S. job market is the healthiest it's been in at least two decades. And with another strong hiring report expected Friday, some barometers of the job market suggest that it has room to strengthen further.

Businesses, hungry for workers, are advertising a record number of openings. Companies in October added the most jobs in eight months, a private survey found. Pay has been picking up.

In the past year or so, as unemployment has dwindled to a now-49-year low, economists had been predicting that hiring would slow as the pool of jobless workers shrank. Yet so far that hasn't happened. In fact, job growth has actually accelerated this year from 2017.

And though some industries have complained of a lack of qualified applicants, other signs point to a pool of readily available workers, including the number of part-time workers who would prefer full-time jobs.

"It doesn't seem to me that we're anywhere near the point where, oh my God, we can't find people," said Joseph LaVorgna, chief economist for the Americas at Natixis, an asset management company.

So far in 2018, employers have added a robust average of 208,000 jobs a month. That's stronger than last year's average of 182,000, though not quite at the sizzling pace of roughly 250,000 in 2015. Combined, all that hiring has been enough to cut the jobless rate to 3.7 percent, the lowest level since 1969.

Economists have forecast that the October jobs report being released Friday — the final snapshot of the labor market before Election Day — will show that a solid 190,000 jobs were added and that unemployment was unchanged.



In this Sept. 27, 2018, file photo a bilingual help wanted sign for Auto Zone is posted outside the store in Canton, Miss.

Polls have suggested that while Americans generally approve of the economy's performance, that sentiment hasn't necessarily broadened voter support for President Donald Trump or Republican congressional candidates.

At some point, job growth will moderate and likely even reverse itself, particularly if the economy — now in its 10th year of expansion, the second-longest such stretch on record — tips into recession. LaVorgna thinks the cause will most likely be the Federal Reserve's ongoing interest rate hikes, which could squelch growth by making borrowing increasingly expensive for businesses and households. Or the Trump administration's trade wars could weaken the economy enough to depress hiring.

Contrary to the concerns of some analysts, LaVorgna doesn't envision an economy-wide shortage of available hires anytime soon.

"There is no evidence that the economy ever runs out of workers during an economic expansion," he said. More employers are stepping up their pay increases in order to attract and retain workers. Retailers like Amazon, Walmart and Target have been steadily raising their entry-level wages, with Amazon paying \$15 an hour starting on Thursday.

A pickup in average pay suggests that companies have to work harder to fill their open positions. Higher pay can also draw people who aren't working and hadn't been seeking a job to begin looking.

Americans who are neither working nor looking for work aren't counted as unemployed. For some of them, the costs of child care and commuting to a job can outweigh the financial benefit of a job. Yet as pay rises, that calculation can change in favor of seeking work.

Salaries for private-sector workers rose 3.1 percent in the July-September quarter compared with a year ago, the government said Wednesday. That was the strongest increase in a decade.

Still, by most measures, average wage increases remain below the levels they reached the last time unemployment was this low. That may indicate that employers aren't quite panicking about finding enough people to hire.

One reason may be there are some ways in which employers can find workers without offering larger raises. Research by economists at the job listing site Indeed has found that that the proportion of Americans working part time who would prefer full-time jobs remains elevated. About 2.9 percent of all workers are in that category, compared with 2.6 percent before the recession and 2.2 percent in 2000, when the

unemployment rate was nearly as low as it is now.

Martha Gimbel, research director for Indeed, says that companies can offer more hours to their part-time workers without necessarily having to raise pay. That's easier than having to dangle sizable raises to recruit workers from other companies. The number of part-time workers who would prefer more hours has been dropping — a sign that companies are already taking that step.

"I do think the job market has room to improve," Gimbel said.

The proportion of Americans in their prime working years — 25 through 54 — who have jobs remains below its pre-recession level, though it's risen since 2013. If more people in this group began looking for work, employers could keep hiring despite the low unemployment rate. Such a trend would help offset the steady retirement of the baby boom generation.

In the meantime, some economists have forecast that strong hiring will continue to shrink the unemployment rate, potentially to levels not seen since the Korean War in the 1950s. Goldman Sachs forecasts that the jobless rate could decline to 3 percent by the end of 2020. Federal Reserve policymakers foresee a smaller drop by then to 3.5 percent.

Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, said that the monthly pace of hiring will ultimately have to drop by as much as half as the ranks of the unemployed fall further. □

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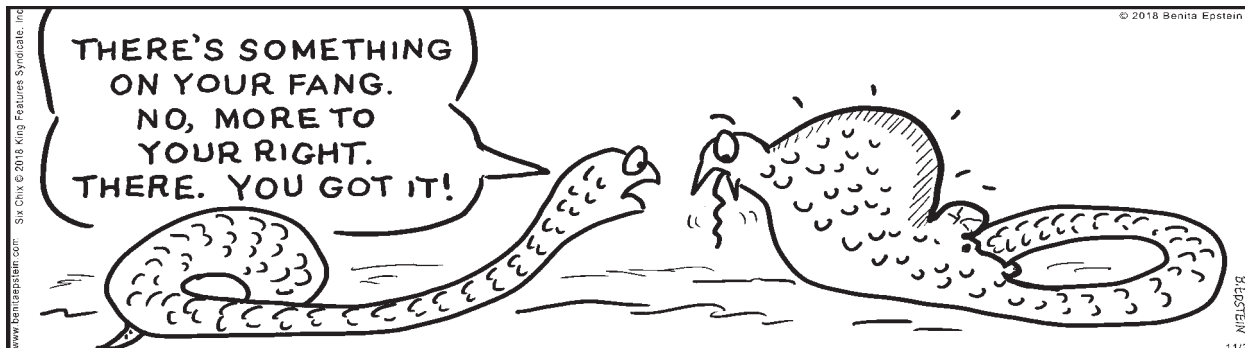
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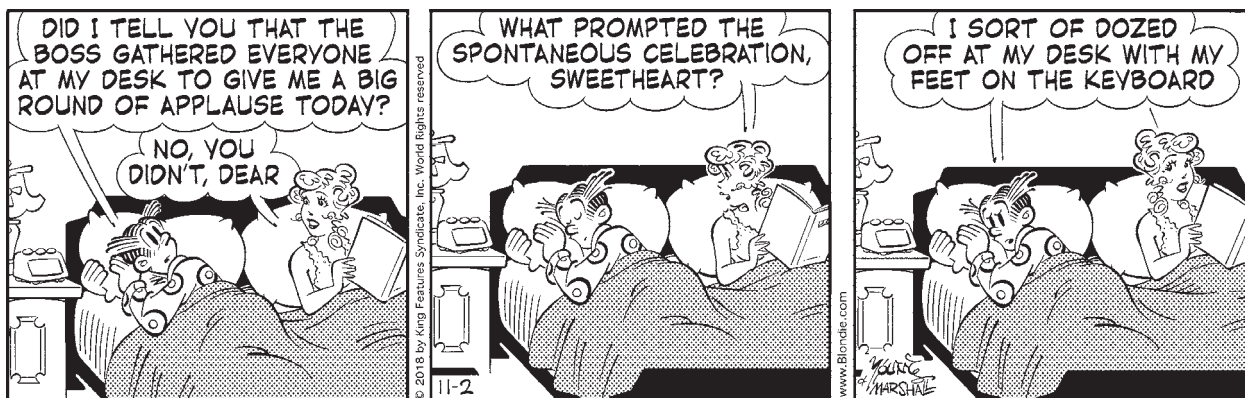
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

2	1						7	3
9			5		6			8
		2	9		1	4		
				5				
		7	8		2	6		
4			1		7			5
6	5						2	1

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

11/02

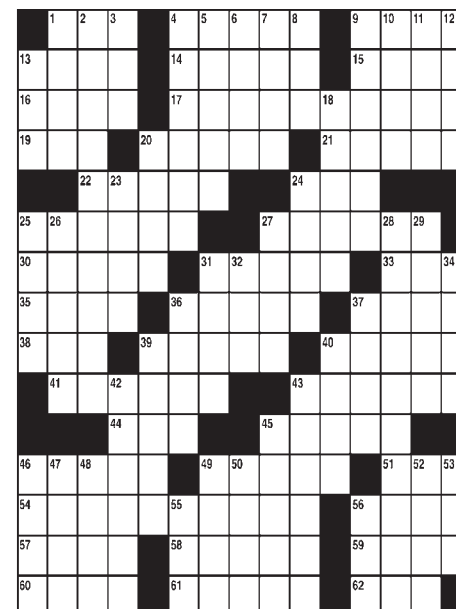
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	6	3	5	2	9	7	8	1
5	2	1	4	8	7	6	3	9
8	7	9	1	3	6	5	4	2
6	1	4	8	7	5	9	2	3
7	8	2	3	9	1	4	5	6
3	9	5	2	6	4	1	7	8
2	4	6	7	1	3	8	9	5
1	3	7	9	5	8	2	6	4
9	5	8	6	4	2	3	1	7

ACROSS

- Crony
- Monk's superior
- Cushy
- Actor Hackman
- Practical joke
- Story
- ___ up; admits
- Coffeepot
- Greek letter
- Bit of dandruff
- Actor Buddy
- Put to work
- Actor Mineo
- Nutmeg & cinnamon
- "___ or leave it"
- Felt miserable
- Disgusting
- Pasture cry
- Thrilled
- Seizes
- Reach across
- Beautician's offering
- Northeastern U.S. state
- Woman's accessory
- Fold up tents and leave
- Says hello to
- Feasted
- Motel employees
- Frighten
- Weather forecast
- Weep
- Deep cut
- On ___; prompt
- ___ and crafts
- Deceitful
- Eager
- State of disarray
- 19th-century U.S. president
- ___-together; social event



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

11/2/18

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

MAY	SPACE	CRAB
RUES	HABIT	HIRE
SNAP	ACUTE	ELMS
TRUMPETER	REST	
REED	NAY	
GRANTS	SKISLOPE	
RIDES	THETA	RUB
AVID	LOONY	GARB
BEE	FORTS	PULSE
STUMBLES	POISED	
OIL	MUST	
PLEA	IMPORTANT	
LOAN	PEACE	ROOF
OGRE	OATHS	STIR
WELD	PLEAT	ELI

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11/2/18

DOWN

- Seats for the laity
- Destroy
- French article
- Round fruits
- Sandwich maker's need
- Awe-inspiring
- Drink to
- Hold tightly
- Hightailed it
- Change for a five
- Chess or mah-jongg
- Brought civil charges against
- Alma ___; one's former school
- Stiffly proper
- Embrace
- Actor James
- Antlered animal
- Grand ___; 4-run homer
- Give a hoot
- Deeds
- Remain
- Cultivate the soil
- Leave out
- Cot or crib
- Toward a ship's stern
- Child's running game

Amazon's new goal: Teach 10 million kids a year to code

By JOSEPH PISANI

AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Amazon wants to get more kids thinking about becoming computer engineers.

The company launched a program Thursday that aims to teach more than 10 million students a year how to code. Amazon said it will pay for summer camps, teacher training and other initiatives to benefit kids and young adults from low-income families who might not have learned to code otherwise. It hopes the programs spur more black, Hispanic and female students to study computer science.

Amazon declined to put a price tag on the program, called Amazon Future Engineer, but said it will take up a big chunk of the \$50 million that it committed to spend on computer science education last year. Other corporations, including Microsoft and Facebook, have also committed cash to bring coding to schools, which could ultimately benefit the companies. There's a shortage of computer engineers, and teaching students to code will ensure a pipeline of future talent to hire.

Jeff Wilke, Amazon's chief executive of worldwide consumer, said he hopes some of the students who go through the Amazon Future Engineer program will work for the company, creating skills for its Alexa voice assistant or programming its delivery drones. But he said other companies are increasingly relying on technology, and coding has become a valuable skill to more employers.

"We're pretty confident that knowing how to code will be as important as knowing how to read for the jobs of the future," Wilke said.

Amazon Future Engineer will offer kids in kindergarten through eighth grade free summer camps and after-school programs that will take place in Amazon offices around the country. Amazon employees will



This Oct. 23, 2018, file photo shows an Amazon logo atop the Amazon Treasure Truck The Park DTLA office complex in downtown Los Angeles.

volunteer, and online classes, lessons and games will be provided by Amazon's partners, such as Code.org and Coding with Kids. The company also said it plans to pay for online training for teachers at 2,000 low-income high schools around the country to teach to teach introductory and college-level advance placement computer science classes. In addition, it will offer college students scholarships and internships.

Schools, teachers and parents will be able to apply through AmazonFutureEngineer.com.

Amazon said some schools have been testing the program, including Monsignor Scanlan High School in

New York. Science teacher Jennifer Tulipano began taking coding classes online in September and started teaching two computer science classes that month where the students learn how to create games and make animated characters dance. It's the first time the school has offered computer science classes. Tulipano said the school applied for the Amazon program because more students were getting feedback from colleges saying they needed some background in computer science.

"So much is now online," Tulipano said. "It's a skill set they need moving forward if they want to go into these fields." □

Associated Press



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Mountain birds on 'escalator to extinction' as planet warms

By **CHRISTINA LARSON**
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A meticulous re-creation of a 3-decade-old study of birds on a mountainside in Peru has given scientists a rare chance to prove how the changing climate is pushing species out of the places they are best adapted to.

Surveys of more than 400 species of birds in 1985 and then in 2017 have found that populations of almost all had declined, as many as eight had disappeared completely, and nearly all had moved to higher elevations in what scientists call "an escalator to extinction." "Once you move up as far as you can go, there's nowhere else left," said John W. Fitzpatrick, a study author and director of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. "On this particular mountain, some ridgetop bird populations were literally wiped out."

It's not certain whether the birds shifted ranges because of temperature changes, or indirect impacts, such as shifts in the ranges of insects or seeds that they feed on.

These findings, published Monday in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, confirm what



This 2017 photo provided by Graham Montgomery shows a deep-blue flowerpiercer in the Cerro de Pantiacolla mountain in Peru. The high-elevation species found on the eastern slope of the Andes lives only near the top of the mountain (above 1300 meters).

biologists had long suspected, but had few opportunities to confirm. The existence of a 1985 survey of birds on the same mountain gave scientists a rare and useful baseline.

Past research has documented habitats of birds and other species moving up in elevation or latitude in response to warming temperatures. But Mark Urban, director of the Center of Biological Risk at the

University of Connecticut, who was not involved in the study said it was the first to prove what climate change models predicted: that rising temperatures will lead to local extinctions.

"A study like this where you have historical data you can go back to and compare is very rare," said Urban. "As long as the species can disperse, you will see species marching up the mountain, until that

escalator becomes a stairway to heaven."

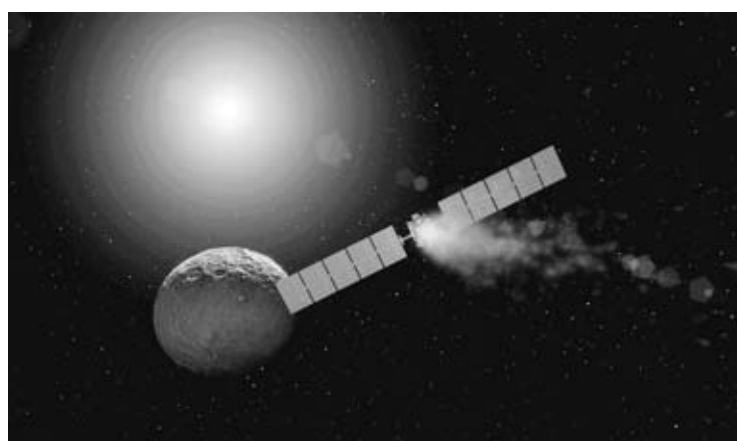
In 1985, Fitzpatrick established a basecamp alongside a river running down a mountain slope in southeastern Peru, aiming to catalog the habitat ranges of tropical bird species that lived there. His team spent several weeks trekking up and down the Cerro de Pantiacolla, using fine nets called mist nets to catch and release birds, and keeping detailed journals of birds they caught, spotted or heard chirping in the forests. Two years ago, Fitzpatrick passed his journals, photos and other records to Benjamin Freeman, a postdoctoral fellow at the Biodiversity Research Centre at the University of British Columbia. Freeman, who has been researching tropical birds for more than a decade, set out to recreate the journey in August and September of 2017. Using old photos of mountain views, his team located the same basecamp.

Freeman largely recreated Fitzpatrick's path and methodology to see what had happened in the intervening years, a period when average mean temperatures on the mountain rose 0.76 degrees Fahrenheit (0.42 degrees Celsius).

Because the mountain lies at the edge of a national park, the area hadn't been disturbed.

In addition to unfurling 40-foot (12-meter) mist nets on the slopes, Freeman's team placed 20 microphone boxes on the mountain to record the chirps of birds that might not easily be seen. "We found that the bird communities were moving up the slope to reach the climate conditions to which they were originally adapted," said Freeman, the lead author of the study. Near the top of the mountain the bird species moved higher by 321 feet (98 meters), on average. "We think temperature is the master-switch in explaining why species live where they do on mountain slopes," said Freeman. "A huge majority of species in our study were doing the same thing."

Birds adapted to live within narrow temperature bands - in regions without wide seasonal variations - may be particularly vulnerable to climate change, Fitzpatrick said. "We should expect that what's happening on this mountaintop is happening more generally in the Andes, and other tropical mountain ranges," he said. □



This illustration made available by NASA depicts the Dawn spacecraft orbiting the dwarf planet Ceres.

Associated Press

Another NASA spacecraft runs out of steam, 2nd this week

By **MARCIA DUNN**
AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — NASA has lost a second spacecraft this week, ending a fruitful mission in the asteroid belt.

Running low on fuel for some time, the Dawn spacecraft this week stopped communicating with flight controllers. Its prolonged silence prompted NASA to declare it dead Thursday, two days after delivering eulogies to the planet-hunting Kepler Space Telescope. The 9 1/2-year-old Kepler also ran out of fuel, needed for pointing the spacecraft. They both kept working lon-

ger than anticipated and their demise had been expected.

Propelled by three ion engines, the 11-year-old Dawn was the first spacecraft to orbit an object in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, and also the first to orbit two places beyond Earth. After circling the asteroid Vesta, Dawn went into orbit around the dwarf planet Ceres.

Mission director and chief engineer Marc Rayman insisted he wasn't sad. Rather, he said in an email, "I'm thrilled it was so fantastically exciting and productive. Dawn was a spectacular

success by any measure. It carried humankind on a truly amazing deep space adventure with stunning discoveries."

Ceres is the largest object in the asteroid belt, followed by Vesta. The "astounding" images collected by Dawn are shedding light on the history and evolution of our solar system, said NASA's science mission chief, Thomas Zurbuchen.

Dawn should remain in orbit around Ceres for decades, according to NASA. "To me, that is a fitting end to an extraordinary extra-terrestrial expedition," Rayman said. □



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Oprah, Pence offer competing version of 'Georgia values'

By BILL BARROW
JEFF MARTIN

Associated Press

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP) — In a rousing speech in the Republican-leaning suburbs of Atlanta, Oprah Winfrey urged voters on Thursday to make history by backing Democratic gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams in next week's election.

Winfrey called Abrams a "changemaker" who represents the values of all Georgians.

"I am here today because Stacey Abrams cares about the things that matter," she said to a mostly female audience north of downtown Atlanta.

Seventy-five miles (120 kilometers) north, Vice President Mike Pence stood alongside Abrams' opponent, Brian Kemp, in Dalton, and mocked the billionaire media icon as just another liberal outsider trying to impose on Republican-run Georgia.

"Stacey Abrams is being bankrolled by Hollywood liberals," Pence said, after drawing boos when he mentioned that "Oprah is in town" and noted that actor Will Ferrell was recently in the state for Democrats. "I'd like to remind Stacey and Oprah and Will Ferrell, I'm kind of a big deal, too," Pence said, adding "a message for all Stacey Abrams' liberal friends: This ain't Hol-



Oprah Winfrey and Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams greet a crowd gathered for a town hall conversation at the Cobb Civic Center's Jennie T. Anderson Theatre in Marietta, Ga., Thursday, Nov. 1, 2018.

lywood. This is Georgia." The competing scenes — from the candidates, to the audiences, to the headliner guests — strike at the crux of the dichotomy Georgia voters face Tuesday in one of the nation's premier midterm matchups. After Thursday's dueling outsiders, former President Barack Obama will follow on Friday for Abrams. President Donald Trump will appear with Kemp on Sunday. More than 1.5 million of the state's almost 7 million registered voters have cast ballots already. Abrams would be the first black female governor in

American history, and she's sought the post as an unapologetic liberal trying to draw new voters to the polls and prove that Georgia's growth and diversity make it a legitimate two-party battleground. She touts her experience working with Republicans as a state legislative leader, but she doesn't back down on her promises to expand Medicaid insurance, prioritize public education and push for tighter gun restrictions. Kemp is a staunch conservative who has embraced Trump and the administration's hard-line on immigra-

tion. He wields guns in his ads and lambastes Abrams as a tool of "socialists" and "billionaires" who "want to turn Georgia into California." Both candidates have taken to describing the race as a battle for "the soul of our state." For her part, Winfrey sought to cut through the party-line framing. The entertainment icon, who rarely makes political endorsements, drew cheers when she said she's a registered independent who was not in Georgia at anyone's request. "I paid to come here my-

self, and I approved this message," Winfrey said, explaining that she tracked down Abrams' cellphone number and called her to say she wanted to offer assistance in the final days of the campaign.

She added a note to the throng of media gathered for the event, urging against any reboot of recent speculation that she might run for president in 2020.

"I'm not here because I'm making some grandstand for myself. I don't want to run. I'm not testing the waters," she said.

Winfrey blasted attacks on Abrams that she says she saw in her hotel room — Republican ads casts Abrams as "too extreme" and "radical" for Georgia — as "noise" that is "designed to confound you with fear." Touting the Democratic nominee's pitch for Medicaid expansion, "common-sense gun control," environmental regulations and "keeping families together," Winfrey said Abrams offers "the values that matter to Georgians all over this state."

"Democracy is not just about our individual rights and concerns and our individual protections," Winfrey said, "but rather it lives and thrives in making sure that everybody is lifted by the community." □

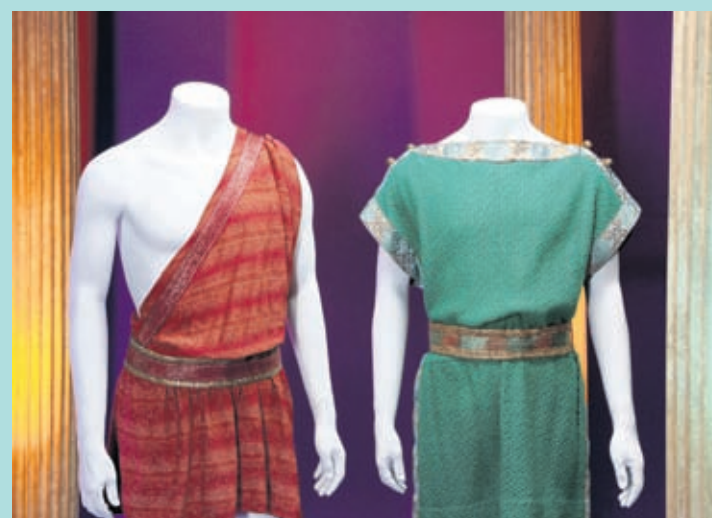
'Batman,' 'Star Trek' TV collectibles to be auctioned

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A longtime TV memorabilia collector is putting props and costumes from "Batman," "Star Trek" and other shows up for auction. James Comisar said 400 items from his collection will be for sale. That includes the Riddler's green jacket from the first episode of "Batman" and a protective glass "bat shield" from the camp 1960s series. Also going on the block are the egg-shaped spaceship from "Mork & Mindy," a bag of Walter White-concocted fake

drugs from "Breaking Bad" and a stalking costume worn by the title serial killer in "Dexter." More than 50 lots of "Star Trek" costumes, sketches, jewelry and correspondence acquired from series costume designer William Ware Theiss will be part of the sale. Among them is the toga worn by William Shatner's Capt. Kirk in a kissing scene with Nichelle Nichols' Lt. Uhura. Comisar said he has been collecting TV-related items for 30 years and hopes to see a museum built to house the items and honor television

history. The memorabilia is stored in a climate-, light- and humidity-controlled warehouse. With the industry slow to support his dream, Comisar said he decided to "share amazing pieces with collectors and fans who have always valued these shows" and care for them properly. Prop Store, a film and TV memorabilia company, is hosting the auction on Dec. 1 at its Southern California facility. Items can be viewed online and bids placed on auction day by phone or on the Prop Store website. □



This image released by The Comisar Collection shows costumes worn by characters Captain Kirk and Spock from the "Star Trek" TV series, which are among 400 items from his memorabilia collection up for auction on Dec. 1.

Associated Press

'The Nutcracker and the Four Realms' falls flat

By **MARK KENNEDY**
Associated Press

So Disney has gone ahead and made a Christmas movie from "The Nutcracker." Is this what we're doing now? We're making big Hollywood movies from 19th century ballets? Anyone have any fresh ideas at all? Talk about low-hanging fruit: It's a sugar plum.

"The Nutcracker and the Four Realms" is visually marvelous, inconsistently acted and rather incoherent in that fantasy genre way. There's not even that much dancing, to tell the truth. Little kids might end up too scared and adults may need several shots of insulin.

There's a lot of stuff going on here so hold onto your popcorn. The story is based on E.T.A. Hoffmann's original 1816 tale, "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King," which went on to become a celebrated ballet with stirring music by Tchaikovsky. (One likely selling point for Disney is the soundtrack to the film is royalty-free.)



This image released by Disney shows Mackenzie Foy, left, and Keira Knightley in a scene from "The Nutcracker and the Four Realms."

Screenwriter Ashleigh Powell has spun a tale of a spunky and brainy 14-year-old Clara who adores elaborate gear mechanisms and quotes Newton's Third Law. One morose Christmas, she gets a present from her late mother that sends her on a quest to the Land of Snowflakes, the

Land of Flowers, the Land of Sweets and the Land of Hokum — sorry, that last one is the ominous Fourth Realm, which is overrun by rodents and fog and demented Cirque du Soleil performers.

Clara must unite all these divisive parallel worlds in time to return to her sad family and celebrate, well, being together. There are elements of Lara Croft, "The King and I" and "The Chronicles of Narnia" here,

and it's safe to say the whole film would fall apart if not for a brilliant performance from Mackenzie Foy ("The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn") as Clara. Soft, angry, tender, pained and regal — Foy is absolutely luminous, both a tomboy and a princess.

She speaks through her eyes and really digs into lines like "The real world doesn't make sense anymore."

The rest of the cast is un-

even, to put it politely this Christmas period.

Keira Knightley as the Sugar Plum Fairy seems to have modeled her character on Elizabeth Banks' role in "The Hunger Games" but thought the other actress was underplaying it and so has brought twice as much irritating energy, including saying things in squeaky voice like "Isn't it magnificent?" "banish'd," "tres chic" and "oh, poo."

At the other end of the spectrum is Jayden Fowora-Knight — he's awfully wooden and just because he plays a former nutcracker is no excuse.

There's also Helen Mirren, who portrays the leader of the Fourth Realm with such a swashbuckling style that she's missed when not on screen.

Directors Joe Johnston and Lasse Hallstrom also called on Misty Copeland, principal dancer for American Ballet Theatre, to play the main doll in a ballet within the movie, which was a wise move. But other poor decisions mar the film, including dressing Eugenio Derbez and Richard E. Grant in over-the-top costumes and telling them to act as if they just snorted a case of Snickers bars. □

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BURN THE STAGE

NEW THIS WEEK!	 BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON-FRI 4:35 SAT-SUN 1:50 4:35 CXC	 THE NUTCRACKER AND THE FOUR REALMS WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG] MON-THU 4:50 7:05 9:20 FRI 4:50 7:05 9:20 11:35 SAT 2:35 4:50 7:05 9:20 11:35 SUN 2:35 4:50 7:05 9:20
	 NOBODY'S FOOL TIFANY HADDISH TIKA SUMPTER MON-THU 4:40 7:05 9:30 FRI 4:40 7:05 9:30 11:55 SAT 2:15 4:40 7:05 9:30 11:55 SUN 2:15 4:40 7:05 9:30	 JOHNNY ENGLISH STRIKES AGAIN WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG] MON-SUN 3:45 5:40 7:35 9:35 GERARD BUTLER GARY OLDMAN
	 HALLOWEEN JAMIE LEE CURTIS JUDY GREER WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [R] MON-THU & SUN 7:20 9:40 FRI-SAT 8:45 11:00	 HUNTER KILLER MON-SUN 4:20 9:20 GERARD BUTLER GARY OLDMAN
	 VENOM WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES [PG-13] MON-FRI 6:55 SAT-SUN 1:55 4:55	<p>STARTING NOVEMBER 8: OVERLORD, THE GIRL IN THE SPIDER'S WEB</p> <p>Palm Beach Plaza Aruba 586.0074</p> <p>THE MAGIC OF THE MOVIES ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE</p> <p>Download on the App Store GET IT ON Google Play</p>

Cash's 'She Remembers Everything' finds her ambition intact

By **DAVID BAUDER**
Associated Press

Rosanne Cash, "She Remembers Everything" (Blue Note)

Rosanne Cash brings in a fair share of collaborators on her latest album, both for songwriting and singing. T Bone Burnett, Elvis Costello, Kris Kristofferson, Sam Phillips, Lera Lynn and Colin Meloy of the Decemberists all make their presence felt. Her last three albums have largely looked back, at musical and family history, and this is a return to a more personal songwriting style. The project was bicoastal for Cash, who recorded half at home in New York with husband John Leven-

thal, her usual producer, and half in Oregon with producer Tucker Martine. Leventhal's production can often seem too mannered, so a listener appreciates the kick of someone new.

Truth is, there's more consistency than one would expect with a divided creative process.

In fact, the best song here ("Not Many Miles to Go"), produced by Martine, is a love song to Leventhal. As the title suggests, it's about a couple that knows it has more days behind them than ahead.

Other highlights include "8 Gods of Harlem," another team effort with Costello



This cover image released by Blue Note shows "She Remembers Everything," a release by Rosanne Cash.

Associated Press

and Kristofferson, two co-writing efforts with Burnett done originally for HBO's "True Detective," most particularly the album-opening "The Only Thing Worth Fighting For," and the title cut, done with Phillips. □

Mac Miller benefit features Chance, SZA, John Mayer

By JONATHAN LANDRUM Jr.
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Travis Scott pointed toward an image of a toothless Mac Miller as a child recognizing the late rapper as a good-spirited person whose “soul will live forever.”

Scott's performance and closing remarks came after other music performers including Chance the Rapper, SZA and John Mayer took the stage Wednesday night to remember Miller's life and career during the “Mac Miller: A Celebration of Life” benefit concert at a packed Greek Theater in Los Angeles. The concert launched the Mac Miller Circles Fund in honor of the hip-hop star and raised money for arts education in underserved communities.

Throughout the show, many spoke highly of Miller and remembered him for being a funny person who smiled all the time even while he rapped. They called his music “fearless.”

“Thank you for the music you made, the opportunities you provided me with, but overall the friendships you built,” said Chance the Rapper, the Grammy Award-winning rapper, who performed the inspirational “Blessings” and “No Problem.”



In this Oct. 2, 2016 file photo, Mac Miller performs at the 2016 The Meadows Music and Arts Festivals at Citi Field in Flushing, New York.

“I met some of my friends through you,” the rapper added. “God bless you and your family, and this foundation.”

Miller was declared dead after paramedics found the 26-year-old hip-hop star unresponsive in his home on Sept. 7. The cause of death has not yet been announced after an autopsy was performed.

Miller's rap lyrics often dealt with his depression and drug use over the years. He released his fifth

album, “Swimming” in August. The rapper earned a wealth of respect from his musical peers and hip-hop greats including Jay Z and Chance the Rapper, and had an assortment of collaborations with Kendrick Lamar, Lil Wayne and Ty Dolla \$ign.

“If there's no Mac Miller, there is no me,” said singer SZA, who performed “Weekend” and “Love Galore.”

Miller drew headlines for his two-year relationship with

singer Ariana Grande that ended earlier this year. He and the singer collaborated on her first Top 10 hit, the multiplatinum, “The Way,” which propelled her from teen TV stardom to pop star.

Grande wasn't in attendance at the concert.

Even though Miller did not have his own song enter Top 40 radio, his popularity translated into a strong following on streaming networks. His debut album “Blue Side Park” went No.

1 on the Billboard Top 200 albums chart.

Ty Dolla \$ign, Anderson Paak, Vince Staples, Miguel, Action Bronson each paid homage performing songs that featured them with Miller. Schoolboy Q said he wrote his hit single “That Part” while Miller sat with him in the studio.

Rae Sremmurd and Juicy J made surprise performances.

Some concertgoers, who showed up sporting their Halloween costumes, cheered “We love you, Mac Miller!!!” throughout the show.

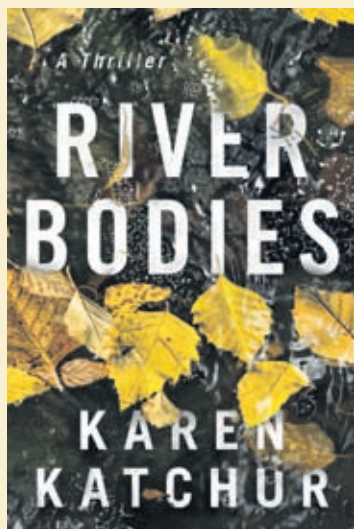
During short breaks, flashback video clips were shown of Miller as an infant, child and adult along with several behind-the scene looks of him doing freestyle raps, performing in front of packed concerts, making jokes and him often playing the piano. As each artist took the stage, a variety of photos of Miller were on display behind them.

A collection of heartfelt and comical video messages were delivered from Pharrell, Donald Glover, Lil Wayne, Rick Ross, Pusha T, G-Eazy, and Tyler, the Creator. Actor Jason Sudeikis and NBA player Karl-Anthony Towns also offered messages via video. □

Author Karen Katchur launches new Northampton County series

By OLIVE H. COGDILL
Associated Press

“River Bodies” (Thomas & Mercer), by Karen Katchur launches the first in her new Northampton County series with a darkly rich family drama about a young woman reconciling her childhood with the adult she has become. “River Bodies” centers on veterinarian Becca Kingsley, who is forced to return to her hometown because her estranged father is dying. Becca has built a life in Columbia, New Jersey, where she loves her career as a surgeon in a successful veterinary clinic. She lives with Matt Goode, a litigator, who, like her father is



This cover image released by Thomas & Mercer shows “River Bodies,” by Karen Katchur.

Associated Press

charming and handsome. He also cheats on her and sometimes doesn't come home, just like her father,

who flaunted his infidelities in front of her and her mother. Becca and Matt live in a gated condo community where she often feels trapped.

Her hometown of Portland, Pennsylvania, is about 15 minutes away, but light years away emotionally for Becca. Her childhood was complicated because her father, Clint, was the police chief. The town was divided between the regular residents and the members of the Scions motorcycle gang that ruled one side of Portland.

At the urging of her mother and Clint's latest live-in girlfriend, Becca returns to see her father, who is near death. But Becca cannot

forget past grievances and betrayals and their reunion is tenuous. While on a run along the Delaware River that separates the two towns, Becca may have come across a murder that just occurred and that echoes back to a similar killing that Clint investigated more than 20 years earlier. The new murder puts Becca back in touch with Parker Reed, her teenage crush and best friend, who is now a detective with the state police.

“River Bodies” expertly shows a town divided. Portland residents like to think that if the Scions stay on their side of town, their crimes and violence don't affect the general popula-

tion. But the Scions have infected the entire town and just about every person has had some dealing with the members.

Katchur delves deep to explore Becca's psyche and how she became the woman she is. As a child, she adored her father, but grew to despise his controlling, rigid personality and the way he treated her mother. She never knew that some of his demands were his way of protecting her — and distancing her from the Scions. Katchur skillfully uses the Delaware River as a metaphor to show the division in Becca's life but doesn't allow this allusion to overwhelm “River Bodies.” □

Japanese spinning tops tell stories, aim for playfulness

By **LINDA LOMBARDI**
Associated Press

It once was thought that the Japanese tradition of carving Edo-style spinning tops had been lost. It turned out it had just gone on the road to northern Japan — and some of it ended up in America as well.

While they're called tops, these go beyond simple spinning disks. Many are more like carved, wooden figures, and might depict scenes with characters that dance, transform or fight. On one, an ogre disguised as a priest bangs a gong when you spin his hat; on another, two discs illustrated with a dog and a robber chase each other around. Figures from folklore and theater are represented, and whimsical scenes like two frogs sumo wrestling.

More than just playthings, the tops were traditionally used for street performances, and involve original creations, not just repetitive copies.

"They have a very varied history across different social groups and classes," says Paula R. Curtis, a Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of Michigan. "Part of it is the artisans putting themselves into the work, interpreting their experiences and cultural background through these tops."

One such artisan is Michiaki Hiroi. His was the last family



This undated photo provided by ariTV/Carving Community: The Landis-Hiroi Collection, shows Michiaki Hiroi, who is part of the last family still carving Edo-style tops in Japan.

making tops in Tokyo when they moved to Sendai in the north of Japan after the Second World War. His father made a living making the woodcrafts of that region, and Hiroi initially followed in his footsteps. Then one day a collector who knew about the Edo style came to the shop and discovered who he was. "This person said, oh my God, I've been looking for you forever," says Curtis.

Hiroi was inspired to begin making the tops and taking on apprentices. While the stereotype of craft apprenticeships in Japan is that they're hard to break into and not welcoming to women and foreigners, Hiroi didn't discriminate.

One of his apprentices was Janell Landis, an American who came to Japan as a missionary and taught at a university in Sendai for 30 years.

When she became his apprentice in 1982, Hiroi encouraged her to bring her own experiences and culture to the craft. Where his tops might represent a figure from a Noh drama, hers included Huck Finn, Tom Sawyer and Cinderella. Instead of Japanese folklore, they reflected the stories important to her, such as a Christmas tree and a scene of the manger with baby Jesus.

If Christmas is fair game as a subject, then what makes a top Edo-style? Curtis,

project manager of an oral history website about Landis and Hiroi, says that Hiroi's answer focuses on the tops' spirit: "He's very insistent on that when he talks about them: When people look at them, it brings them a sense of joy and playfulness."

That response might seem evasive or frustrating — aren't you supposed to be able to identify a school of arts or crafts from how it looks? Not necessarily, according to Tamara Joy, curator of the Morikami Museum in Delray Beach, Florida. For Japanese crafts, a style is often distinguished by where it comes from and who is teaching it, rather than certain patterns or techniques.

But the term Edo also has deep cultural and historical resonance that is re-

flected in these tops, says Joy, whose museum owns a collection of Hiroi's work that Landis brought back when she returned to the US in 1995.

Edo is the old name for Tokyo, but it's also the name of the era from 1603-1868, a period that saw the development of a new middle class with more free time and spending money. This resulted in an explosion of the arts and culture. These tops are part of that bigger picture, Joy says.

Often, they contained subversive commentary about the ruling classes. "There was a lot of sticking it to the people who were in charge," says Joy. This had to be subtle: perhaps a play that used historical characters with parallels to the present, or a performance with elaborate tops that actually told a story.

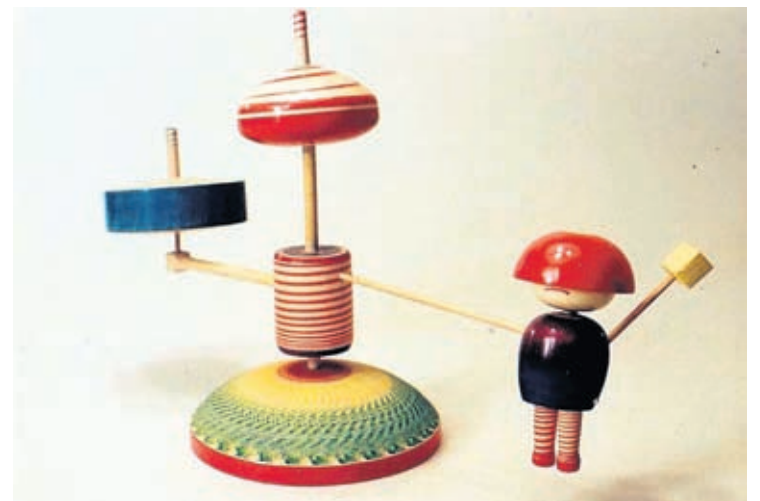
One of Joy's favorites in the collection represents a common figure of fun, the spear-bearer who led samurai processions. Paintings and illustrations mock his self-importance. "His chest is all puffed up, and he's got a smug look on his face," says Joy. "You couldn't directly make fun of the samurai, but you could poke at them and their egos through this character."

On Hiroi's top, the figure's spear moves around clumsily when his head is spun. "You could see the same character in a half-million-dollar painting," Joy says, "and he made his way into a top." □



This undated photo provided by Janell Landis/Carving Community: The Landis-Hiroi Collection, shows examples of examples of Edo-style wooden tops made by Janell Landis reflecting American themes.

Associated Press



This undated photo provided by Janell Landis/Carving Community: The Landis-Hiroi Collection, shows an example of an Edo-style top depicting a courier, who appears to run frantically when it is spun.

Associated Press